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THE ETERNALS™



Strange events have exposed a startling fact, kept alive through the centuries only by myth and superstition—man is not alone on the evolutionary chain!! He has shared the planet with two species unknown to him! Now, in a sudden burst of violence, the Deviants have risen from their domain beneath the sea to challenge all humanity!! But mankind has unexpected allies—

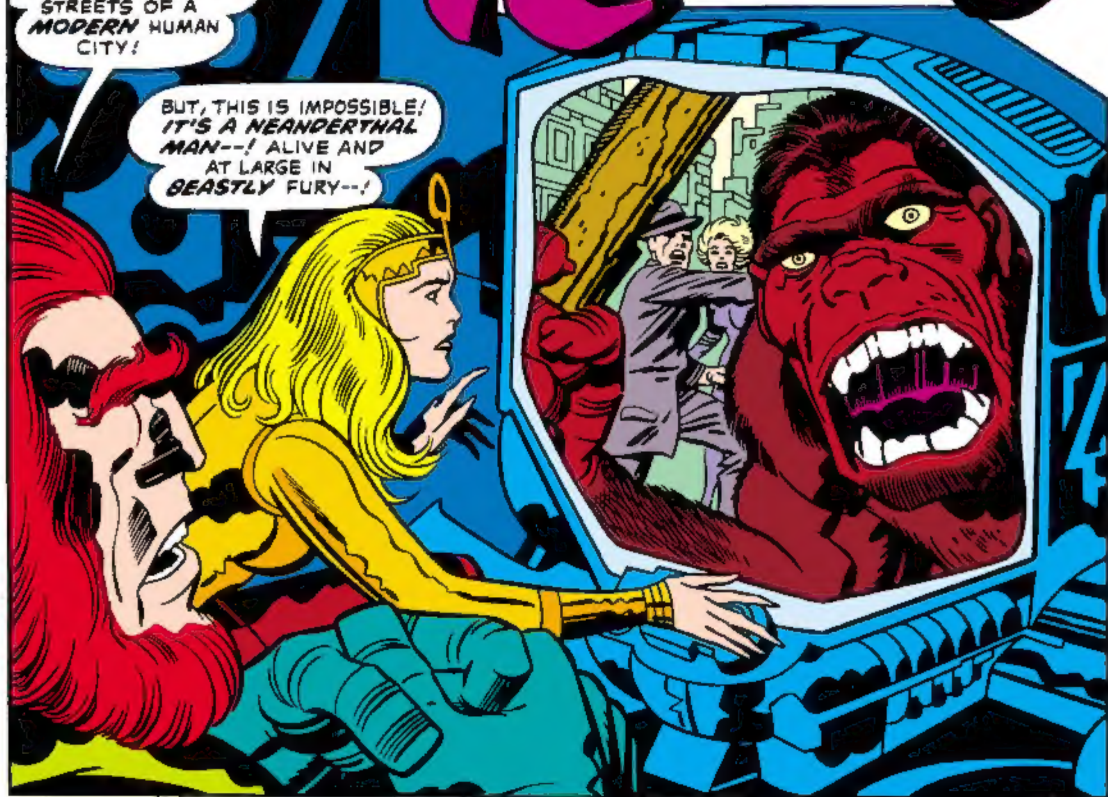
Stan Lee PRESENTS:

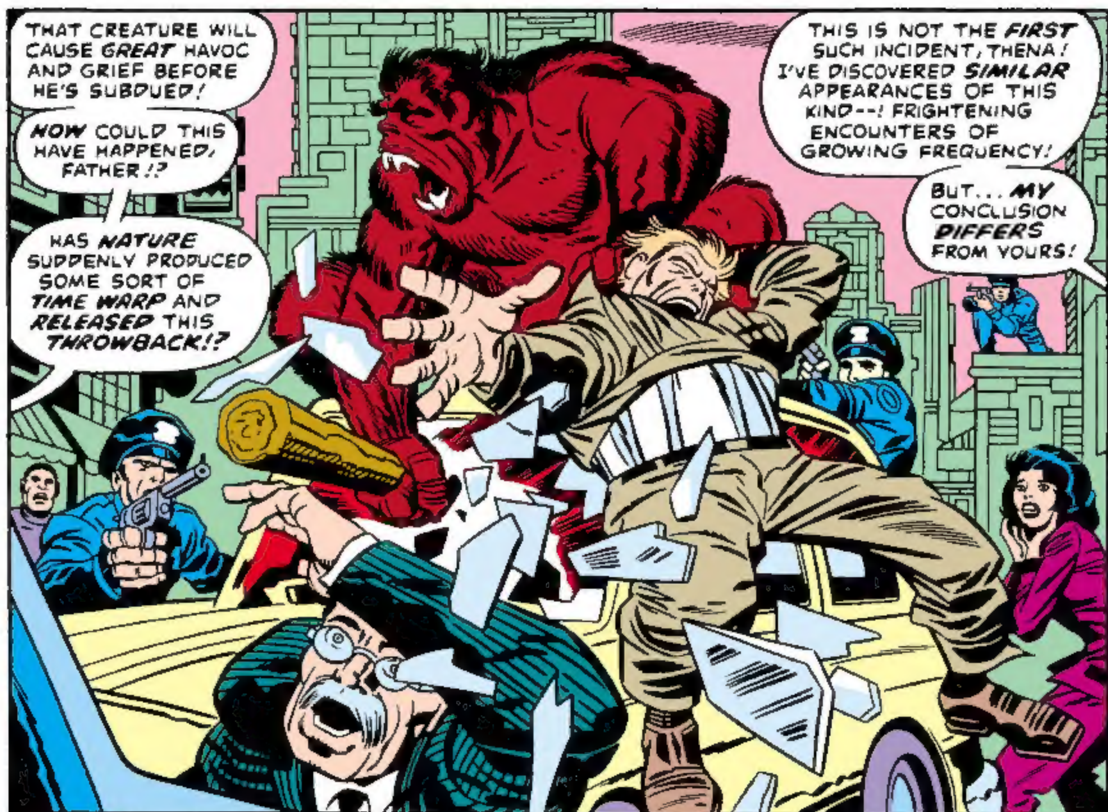
THE ETERNALS!™

EDITED, WRITTEN, AND DRAWN BY JACK KIRBY • LETTERS N' INKS BY MIKE ROYER • COLORED BY GLYNIS WEIN • APPRECIATED BY ARCHIE GOODWIN

FOR COUNTLESS CENTURIES, **GREAT ZURAS**, PRIME ETERNAL OF **OLYMPIA**, HAS WATCHED THE COURSE OF HUMAN PROGRESS LURCH CONTINUOUSLY BETWEEN **TRIUMPH** AND **DISASTER**... HELD FROM PLUNGING OVER THE BRINK BY THE HIDDEN HANDS OF THE ETERNALS, HUMANITY IS NOW IN A **NEW ERA** -- WHEN ITS ANCIENT FRIENDS STAND **REVEALED** -- AND ITS ENEMIES, THE **DEVIANTS**, STILL BUSILY SOW THE SEEDS OF **CATASTROPHE**... LIKE--

THE TIME KILLERS





NATURE IS INNOCENT OF THIS CRIME! SOMEWHERE AMONG THE HUMANS A SINISTER FORCE IS AT WORK -- EVEN AS IT WAS IN THE DAYS OF DEVIANT ASCENDANCY!

ZAKKA, THE TOOL-MASTER, STILL LIVES!

Y-YOU MEAN-- THIS IS ZAKKA'S DOING?

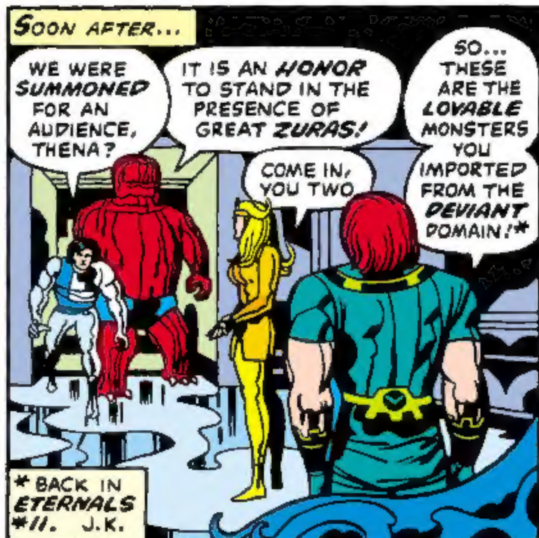
OF COURSE YOU DO. THERE'S NO EVENT OF ANY IMPORTANCE THAT ESCAPES YOUR CLOSE SCRUTINY!

AND I ASSUME THAT YOU'VE GATHERED ALL THE KNOWN FACTS BEHIND THIS SITUATION!?

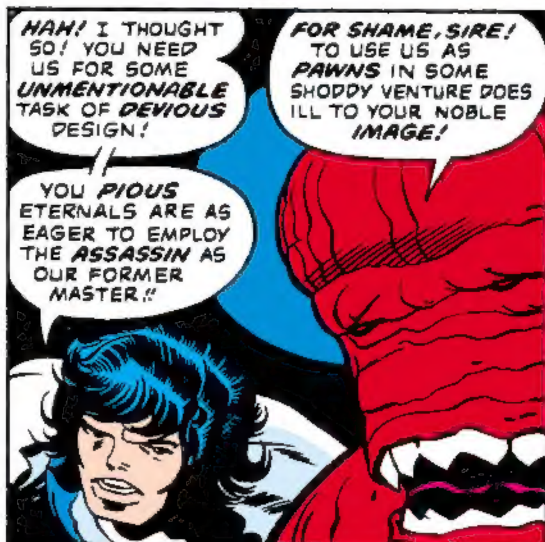
I HAVE!

I KNOW THAT THIS EVIL DEVIANT HAS SURVIVED THE CENTURIES -- AND THE OUTRAGE AGAINST HIS MADNESS FOR TAMPERING WITH THINGS FORBIDDEN!

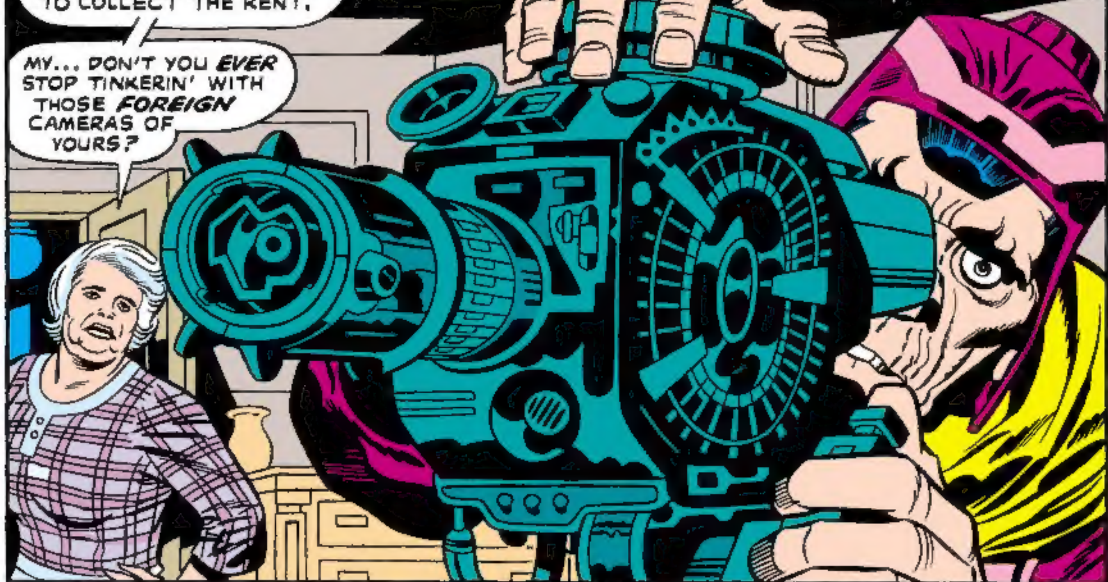

I FEAR FOR THIS PLANET IF THESE INCIDENTS SPREAD! THE HAND OF ZAKKA MUST BE STOPPED --HIS TALENTS CONTAINED!
SAY NO MORE, FATHER. I BELIEVE I'VE GOT THE MEANS TO ACCOMPLISH THE TASK!

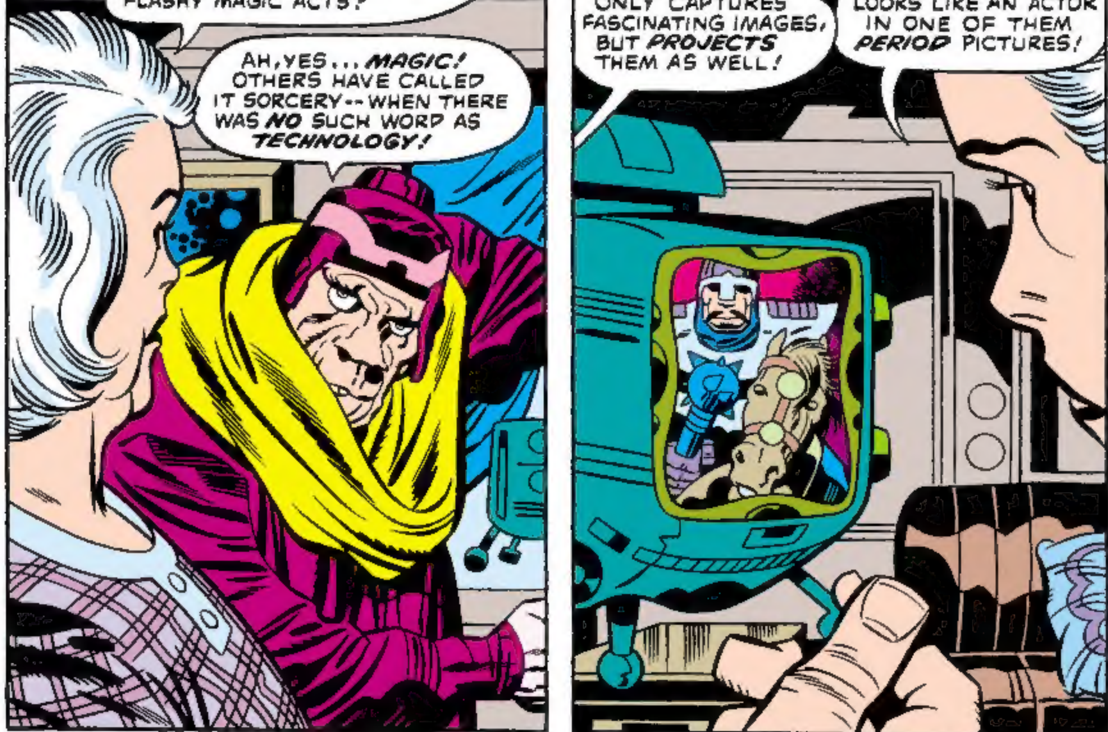

SOON AFTER...
WE WERE SUMMONED FOR AN AUDIENCE, THENA?
IT IS AN HONOR TO STAND IN THE PRESENCE OF GREAT ZURAS!
COME IN, YOU TWO.
SO... THESE ARE THE LOVABLE MONSTERS YOU IMPORTED FROM THE DEVIANT DOMAIN!*
* BACK IN ETERNALS #11. J.K.

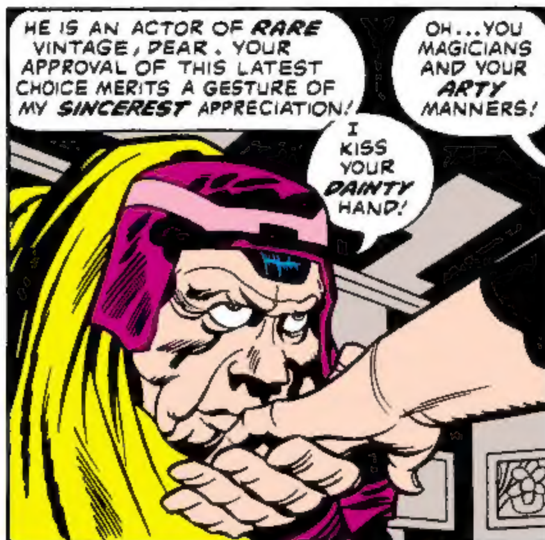

HOLD YOUR TEMPER, SWEET PRINCE--! GREAT ZURAS MERELY JESTS!
JESTS ARE FEW IN A LIFE SPENT AT KILLING IN THE ARENA! AM I A MONSTER FOR HAVING BEEN BRED TO THIS SPORT?
I'D HATE YOU, IF I DIDN'T HATE THE DEVIANTS MORE!
DO YOU UNDER-STAND NOW, FATHER?
YES--! WE SHALL FERRET OUT ZAKKA--WITH HIS OWN KIND!

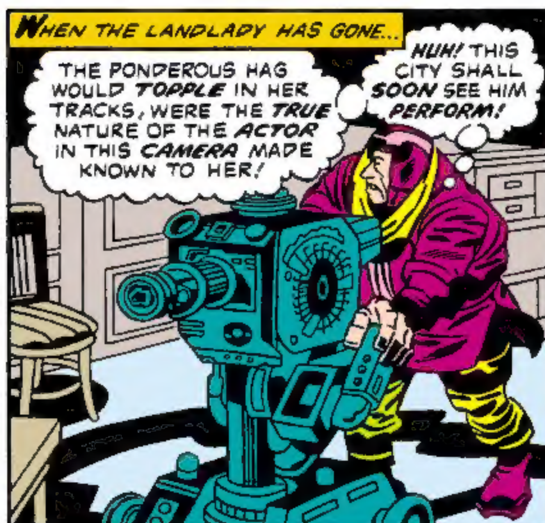
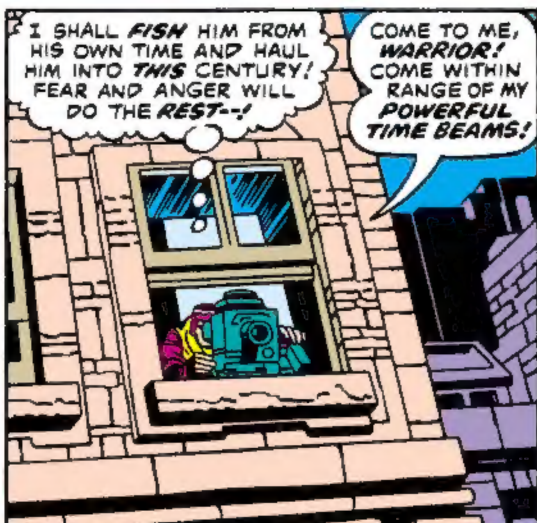
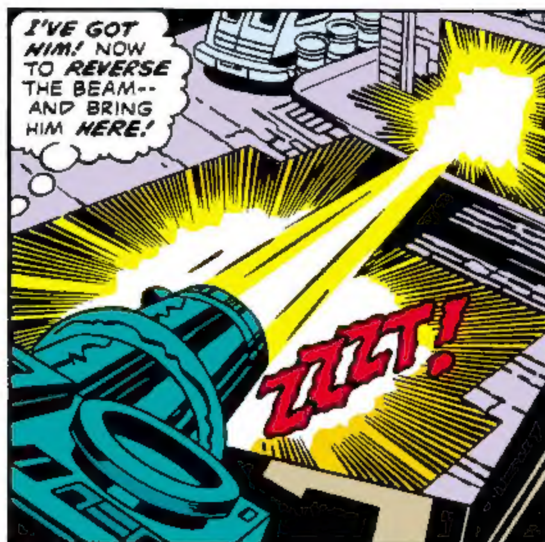
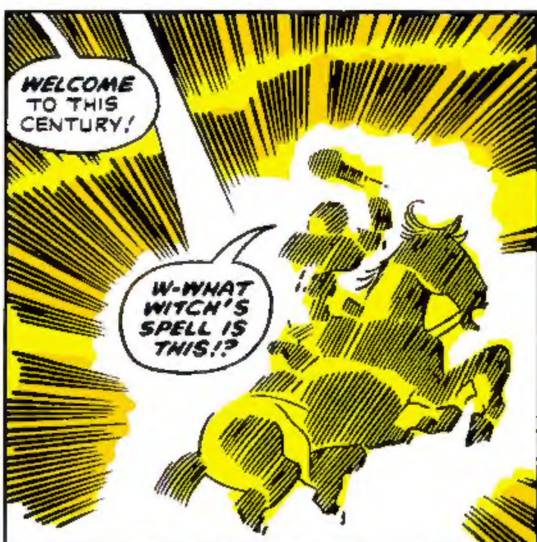

HAH! I THOUGHT SO! YOU NEED US FOR SOME UNMENTIONABLE TASK OF DEVIOUS DESIGN!
YOU PIOUS ETERNALS ARE AS EAGER TO EMPLOY THE ASSASSIN AS OUR FORMER MASTER!!
FOR SHAME, SIRE! TO USE US AS PAWNS IN SOME SHODDY VENTURE DOES ILL TO YOUR NOBLE IMAGE!


OH, BE STILL, KARKAS! TO MEASURE GREAT ZURAS WITH A DEVIANT YARD-STICK IS IGNORANCE AT ITS ULTIMATE!
I GIVE YOU NO ORDER TO KILL! YOU TWO SHALL CARRY OUT THIS TASK IN A MANNER WHICH YOUR OWN NATURES DICTATE!


MEANWHILE, IN THE MODEST QUARTER OF A LARGE AMERICAN CITY, A LANDLADY INTERRUPTS THE WORK OF A MOST UNUSUAL TENANT...
GOOD EVENIN', MISTER ZACHARY. IT'S THAT CERTAIN DAY OF THE MONTH AGAIN. I'VE COME TO COLLECT THE RENT.
MY... DON'T YOU EVER STOP TINKERIN' WITH THOSE FOREIGN CAMERAS OF YOURS?
BLESS YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN, MY DEAR MRS. PAPP! BUT YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW INTIMATELY MY LIFE AND THIS WORK ARE RELATED!

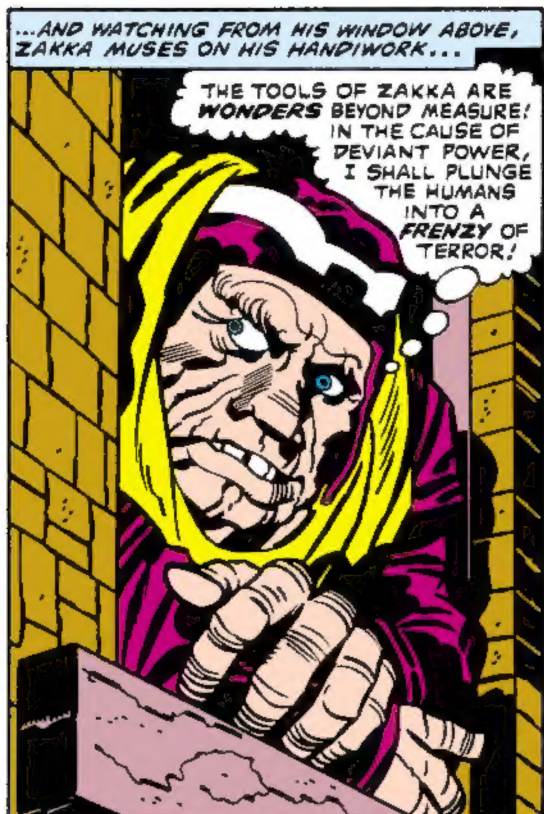

I SUPPOSE I JUST HAVE A SOFT SPOT FOR SHOW FOLKS! WOULD YOU BE USIN' THIS THING IN ONE OF THEM FLASHY MAGIC ACTS?
AH, YES... MAGIC! OTHERS HAVE CALLED IT SORCERY--WHEN THERE WAS NO SUCH WORD AS TECHNOLOGY!
THIS, ER, CAMERA IS MY PRIZE POSSESSION! IT NOT ONLY CAPTURES FASCINATING IMAGES, BUT PROJECTS THEM AS WELL!
WHY, THERE'S A HANDSOME DARLIN' OF A MAN! HE LOOKS LIKE AN ACTOR IN ONE OF THEM PERIOD PICTURES!


HE IS AN ACTOR OF RARE VINTAGE, DEAR. YOUR APPROVAL OF THIS LATEST CHOICE MERITS A GESTURE OF MY SINCEREST APPRECIATION!
I KISS YOUR DAINTY HAND!
OH...YOU MAGICIANS AND YOUR ARTY MANNERS!

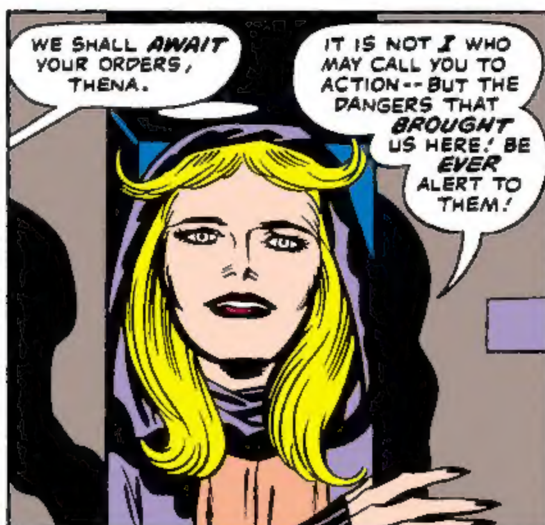
I-I'LL COME BACK WHEN YOU'RE NOT BUSY. WE'LL SHARE OUR STORIES ABOUT SHOW BUSINESS!
WE SHALL MAKE THIS HUMBLE ABODE SPARKLE WITH TINSEL AND SONG!

WHEN THE LANDLADY HAS GONE...
THE PONDEROUS HAG WOULD TOPPLE IN HER TRACKS, WERE THE TRUE NATURE OF THE ACTOR IN THIS CAMERA MADE KNOWN TO HER!
HUH! THIS CITY SHALL SOON SEE HIM PERFORM!

I SHALL FISH HIM FROM HIS OWN TIME AND HAUL HIM INTO THIS CENTURY! FEAR AND ANGER WILL DO THE REST--!
COME TO ME, WARRIOR! COME WITHIN RANGE OF MY POWERFUL TIME BEAMS!

I'VE GOT HIM! NOW TO REVERSE THE BEAM-- AND BRING HIM HERE!
ZZZT!

WELCOME TO THIS CENTURY!
W-WHAT WITCH'S SPELL IS THIS!?

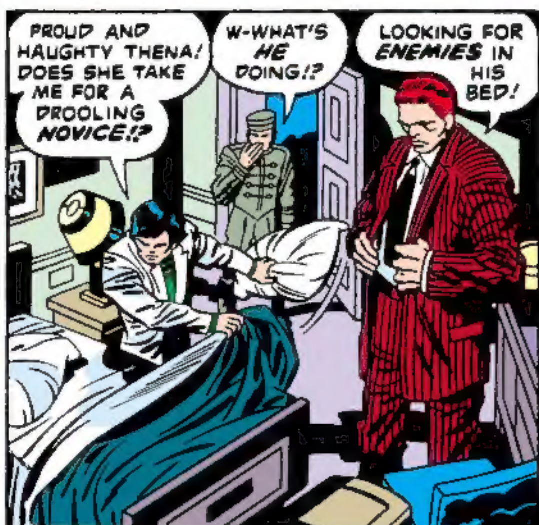
'OD'S BLOOD! I'VE BEEN SNATCHED TO A DEMON'S PLACE--!!
CRASH!
LOOK OUT! HE'S A LUNATIC!!
HELP! HELP! WE'LL BE KILLED!


FEAR AND ANGER DRIVE THE ANCIENT WARRIOR TO MURDEROUS FURY. HE SOON GALLOPS INTO THE HEART OF THE CITY, LEAVING CHAOS IN HIS WAKE...
THAT NUT IS WRECKING THE TOWN! STOP HIM! STOP HIM!!


...AND WATCHING FROM HIS WINDOW ABOVE, ZAKKA MUSES ON HIS HANDIWORK...
THE TOOLS OF ZAKKA ARE WONDERS BEYOND MEASURE! IN THE CAUSE OF DEVIANT POWER, I SHALL PLUNGE THE HUMANS INTO A FRENZY OF TERROR!


MEANWHILE, IN A LARGE MID-TOWN HOTEL...
HUMAN HABITATS HAVE TOO MANY CORNERS--! PLACES FAVORABLE TO A LURKING ENEMY!
THEY INSTILL NO ANXIETIES IN ME, REJECT! I RATHER LIKE THIS TRIP!
ALL IS ILLUSION, KARKAS! --INCLUDING YOUR IMAGE! WE ARE HERE FOR SERIOUS WORK.
THIS WAY, GENTLE-MEN!

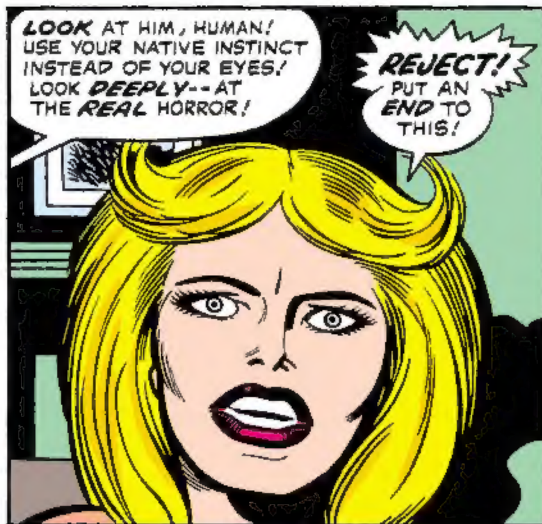
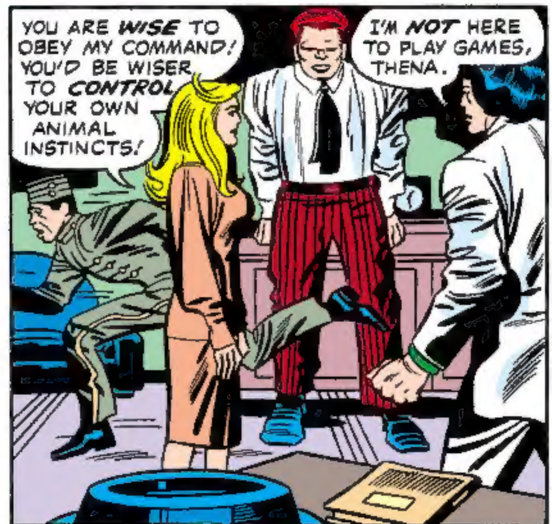

WE SHALL AWAIT YOUR ORDERS, THENA.
IT IS NOT I WHO MAY CALL YOU TO ACTION--BUT THE DANGERS THAT BROUGHT US HERE! BE EVER ALERT TO THEM!

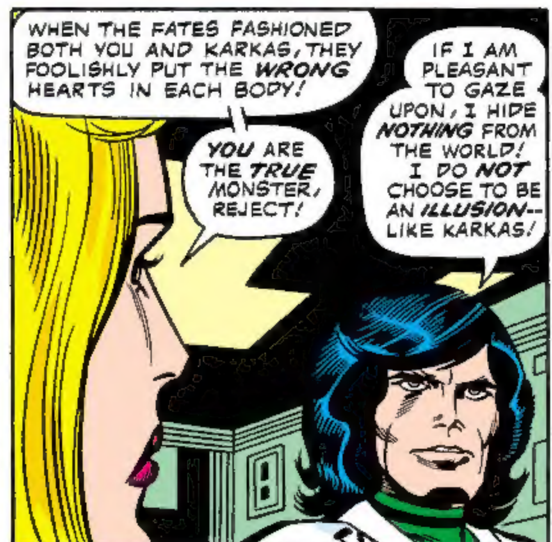

PROUD AND HAUGHTY THENA! DOES SHE TAKE ME FOR A DROOLING NOVICE!?
W-WHAT'S HE DOING!?
LOOKING FOR ENEMIES IN HIS BED!


SNEER IF YOU LIKE, YOU DOCTORED AND DELUDED DINOSAUR! BUT I PLAN TO BE ALIVE WHEN THIS MAD TASK IS DONE!
LIVE YOU MAY, KILLER! BUT IT SHALL ALWAYS BE WITH A FEAR OF SHADOWS!


ER--IF YOU GENTLEMEN NEED ANY-THING ELSE, I'LL BE GLAD TO HELP...
HE WAITS FOR THE MONETARY TIP WHICH THENA SPOKE OF.
WE OWE THE HUMANS NOTHING! THEY SHOULD BE IN OUR DEBT FOR COMING TO THEIR AID!


SUDDENLY...
HEY! PUT ME DOWN, MISTER!
STOP IT, REJECT! HE KNOWS NOTHING OF OUR MISSION!
HAHAHAH! TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT YOUR RESCUERS, HUMAN!

STOP IT, YOU UGLY FOOL!
HE'LL SOON SEE WHO THE MONSTER IS, KARKAS --AS I DRAW HIM CLOSER TO YOU!

LOOK AT HIM, HUMAN! USE YOUR NATIVE INSTINCT INSTEAD OF YOUR EYES! LOOK DEEPLY--AT THE REAL HORROR!
REJECT! PUT AN END TO THIS!

YOU ARE WISE TO OBEY MY COMMAND! YOU'D BE WISER TO CONTROL YOUR OWN ANIMAL INSTINCTS!
I'M NOT HERE TO PLAY GAMES, THENA.

NEITHER AM I! BUT THE HUMANS HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO ZAKKA'S TERROR! THEY NEED NOT SUFFER FROM YOURS!
I AM WHAT I AM! A THING TAUGHT ONLY TO MAKE ITS KILL--AND PREPARE FOR THE NEXT!
IT IS STRENGTH, NOT KINDNESS, WHICH SUSTAINS ME!

WHEN THE FATES FASHIONED BOTH YOU AND KARKAS, THEY FOOLISHLY PUT THE WRONG HEARTS IN EACH BODY!
YOU ARE THE TRUE MONSTER, REJECT!
IF I AM PLEASANT TO GAZE UPON, I HIDE NOTHING FROM THE WORLD! I DO NOT CHOOSE TO BE AN ILLUSION--LIKE KARKAS!

HOLD! WE'VE SPENT TOO MUCH TIME IN IDLE TALK!
THIS INSTRUMENT GIVEN TO ME BY GREAT ZURAS SIGNALS THE PRESENCE OF A MIND ALIEN TO THIS AGE!
HERE... IN THIS HOTEL!? YOUR FATHER JUDGED WELL WHERE THE BLOW WOULD FALL!
BZZZZZTTT

ON THE FLOOR ABOVE, A SINISTER FIGURE HAS MADE HIS APPEARANCE. HIS EYES GLOW WITH AN EVIL FLAME AS HE STALKS A KIND OF PREY HE'S ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN TO DESTROY...
THIS PLACE IS FOREIGN TO ME, BUT I SHALL STRIKE NONETHELESS!

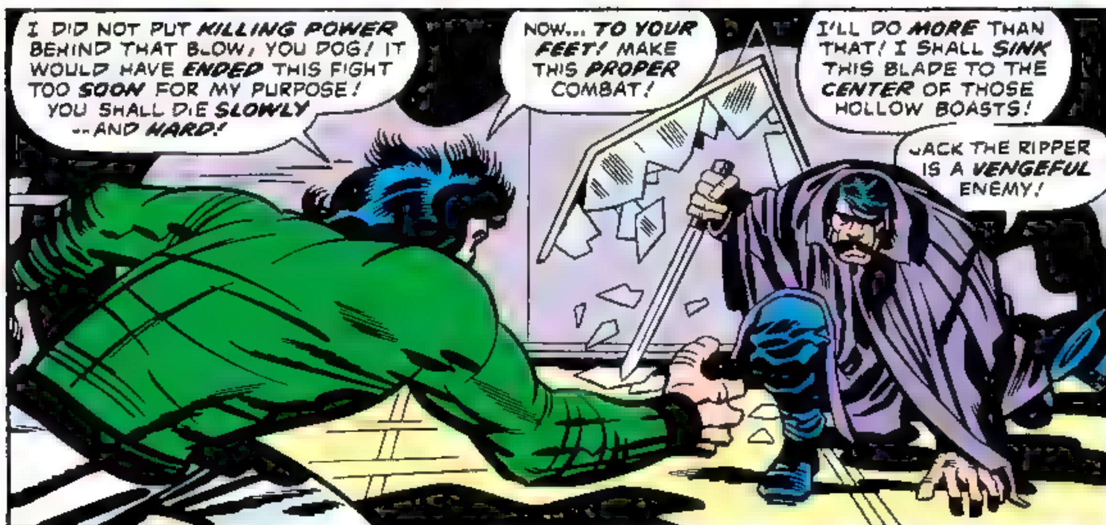
A LONG BLADE IS QUICKLY DRAWN FROM HIS CANE...
SHE'S A PERFECT CHOICE FOR JACK THE RIPPER!
THIS METROPOLIS IS TEEMING WITH HER TYPE! I SHALL BE VERY BUSY HERE!

BUT FIRST, TO THE TASK AT HAND! I SHALL FINISH HER WITH SWIFT AND SILENT PRECISION!

NOW! I MUST DO IT-- NOW!!
STRANGE... I-I FEEL AS THOUGH I'M BEING FOLLOWED!

SUDDENLY...
STAY THAT WEAPON!
STOP HIM, REJECT!
GOOD LORD! H-HE WAS GOING TO KILL ME--!


FOOLISH YOUNG DULLARD! THIS INTRUSION WILL COST YOU YOUR LIFE! YOU'VE ALLOWED MY VICTIM TO ESCAPE!
BUT YOU WON'T, MASTER MURDERER! YOU CAN BE CERTAIN OF THAT!

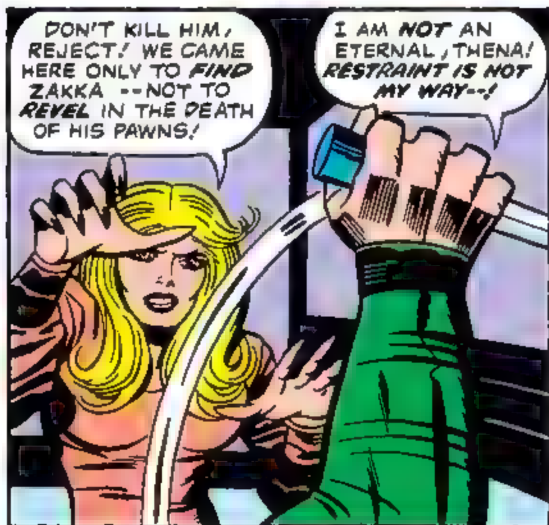
THE REJECT STRIKES OUT WITH DEADLY ACCURACY...
KRAK!
UGH--!

I DID NOT PUT KILLING POWER BEHIND THAT BLOW, YOU DOG! IT WOULD HAVE ENDED THIS FIGHT TOO SOON FOR MY PURPOSE! YOU SHALL DIE SLOWLY --AND HARD!
NOW... TO YOUR FEET! MAKE THIS PROPER COMBAT!
I'LL DO MORE THAN THAT! I SHALL SINK THIS BLADE TO THE CENTER OF THOSE HOLLOW BOASTS!
JACK THE RIPPER IS A VENGEFUL ENEMY!

THAT WAS CLOSE-- BUT SCARCELY ENOUGH TO DO THE JOB!
SWISSH
BY SATAN! I THOUGHT I HAD YOU!
YOU'RE A POOR MATCH FOR ME, RIPPER!

YOUR KIND IS NOT EVEN WORTHY OF CLEANING THE ARENA IN WHICH I'VE FOUGHT!
THE DEVIANTS WOULD USE YOUR HIDE AS FOOD FOR THEIR CATTLE!
CURSE YOU! I'LL--!

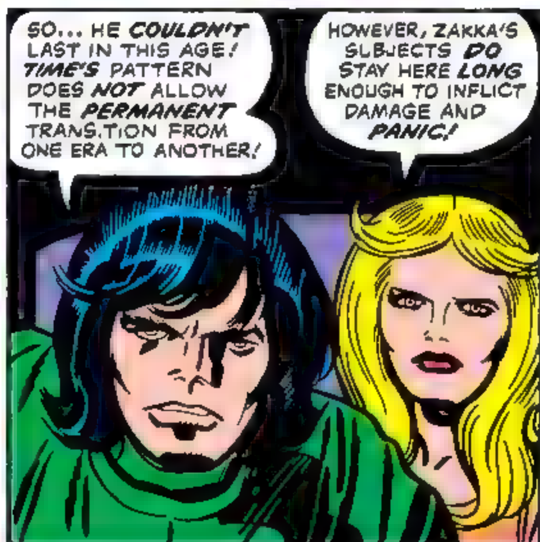

CURSES DON'T WIN BATTLES!
I'VE GOT YOUR BLADE! AND NOW I'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT'S USED BY A VETERAN!


SCREAM, RIPPER! JOIN THE CHORUS OF YOUR VICTIMS! FEEL THE TERROR BEFORE DYING!
NO-- NO--!


DON'T KILL HIM, REJECT! WE CAME HERE ONLY TO FIND ZAKKA --NOT TO REVEL IN THE DEATH OF HIS PAWNS!
I AM NOT AN ETERNAL, THENA! RESTRAINT IS NOT MY WAY--!


AS THE SWORD PLUNGES HOME, ITS TARGET VANISHES IN A BURST OF LIGHT...
TZWOF!

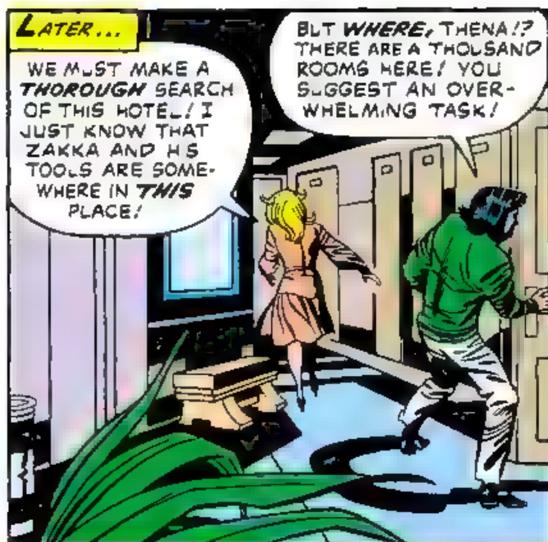

H-HE'S GONE!
THERE'S ONLY THIN VAPOR WHERE HE LAY OPEN TO MY THRUST!
I'VE BEEN CHEATED!
BY THE PATTERN OF TIME, REJECT!


SO... HE COULDN'T LAST IN THIS AGE! TIME'S PATTERN DOES NOT ALLOW THE PERMANENT TRANSITION FROM ONE ERA TO ANOTHER!
HOWEVER, ZAKKA'S SUBJECTS DO STAY HERE LONG ENOUGH TO INFLICT DAMAGE AND PANIC!

AT THAT MOMENT...
WHERE IS HE!? WHERE'S THE KILLER?
YOU MUST BE THE GUY WHO HELPED THIS YOUNG LADY!
WHERE DID HE GO, SON? WE'VE GOT HIS DESCRIPTION! WE'LL GET HIM!
HE VANISHED --TOO SWIFTLY FOR ME TO FOLLOW! IT WAS AS IF HE'D BEEN SWALLOWED IN A PUFF OF SMOKE!

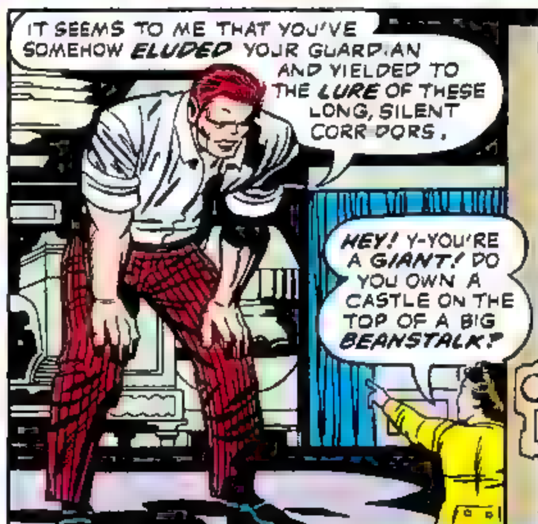





LATER...
WE MUST MAKE A THOROUGH SEARCH OF THIS HOTEL! I JUST KNOW THAT ZAKKA AND HIS TOOLS ARE SOMEWHERE IN THIS PLACE!
BUT WHERE, THENA!? THERE ARE A THOUSAND ROOMS HERE! YOU SUGGEST AN OVERWHELMING TASK!


WE KNOW NOTHING OF HIS TOOLS OR HOW THEY WORK! PERHAPS THEY ALLOW HIM TO STRIKE FROM A DISTANCE!
HE'S HERE, I TELL YOU! HIS MALIGNANT MIND REGISTERS CLEARLY ON THIS PSYCHO-BAND!
FOLLOW ME!


BUT, KARKAS, WAITING IN RESERVE, IS HOST TO A YOUNG VISITOR AT HIS DOOR...
HELLO, MISTER. MAY I COME IN AND PLAY?
THE HOUR IS RATHER LATE, MASTER TRAVELER.


IT SEEMS TO ME THAT YOU'VE SOMEHOW ELUDED YOUR GUARDIAN AND YIELDED TO THE LURE OF THESE LONG, SILENT CORRIDORS.
HEY! Y-YOU'RE A GIANT! DO YOU OWN A CASTLE ON THE TOP OF A BIG BEANSTALK?


NO, BUT I'VE BEEN TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA AND LIVED IN A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE FLY WITHOUT WINGS!
WOWW--! TELL ME ABOUT 'EM, GIANT!

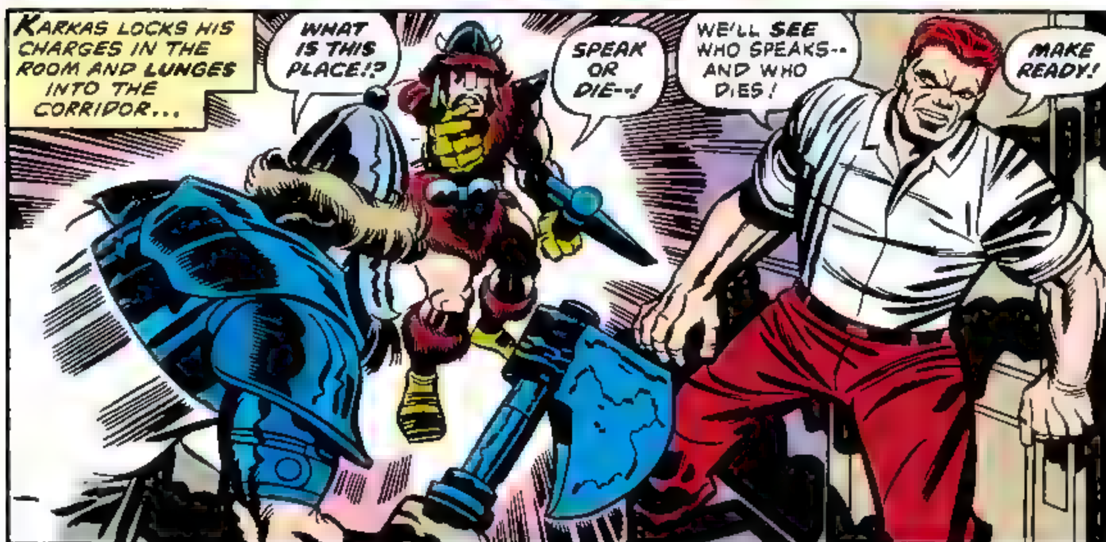

NOT BEFORE YOU GET A GOOD SPANKING, GEORGIE! I-I'VE BEEN LOOKING EVERYWHERE FOR YOU!
I FOUND A GIANT, JANEY!


PLEASE EXCUSE US, SIR. I-I'M GEORGIE'S BABY-SITTER-- AND I CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW HE SLIPPED BY ME!
HE JUST LOVES TO WANDER THROUGH THE CORRIDORS!
I'D SUGGEST THAT YOU WATCH HIM MORE CAREFULLY!
'BYE, GIANT.


WHEN YOU RETURN TO YOUR ROOM, IT WOULD BE WISE TO BOLT YOUR DOOR!
PERHAPS I SHOULD ESCORT YOU THERE AND MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOU'RE SAFELY INSIDE!
OH-- ER-- THAT'S NOT NECES-SARY!


THE EYES OF KARKAS SUDDENLY WIDEN IN SURPRISE AND SHOCK AS THEY STARE FIXEDLY ON A SPOT BEHIND THE GIRL...
HOLD!


DON'T BE ALARMED--! DO AS I TELL YOU! STAY IN THIS ROOM-- AND DON'T LEAVE IT UNTIL I GIVE YOU THE WORD!
COME IN! QUICKLY!
B-BUT I DON'T--!


KARKAS LOCKS HIS CHARGES IN THE ROOM AND LUNGES INTO THE CORRIDOR...
WHAT IS THIS PLACE!?
SPEAK OR DIE--!
WE'LL SEE WHO SPEAKS-- AND WHO DIES!
MAKE READY!

THE WARRIORS FROM THE PAST ARE QUICK TO ATTACK. THEY CLOSE WITH KARKAS...

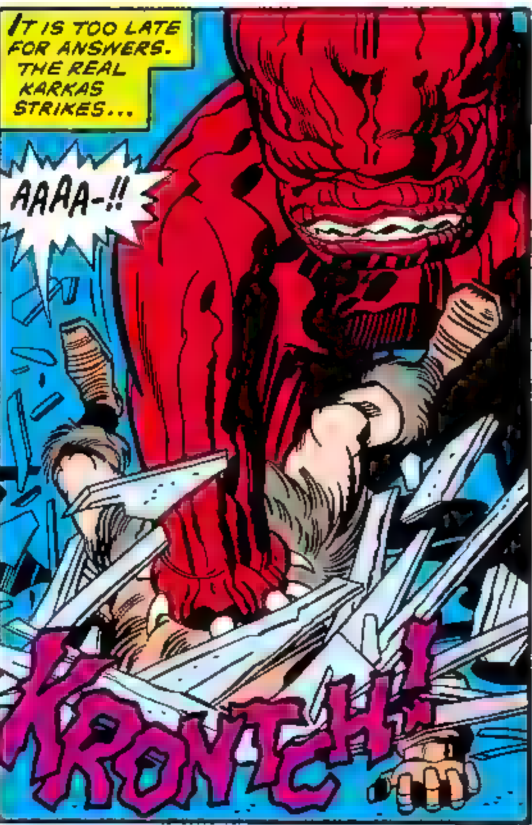
TASTE THE AXE OF ATTILA!

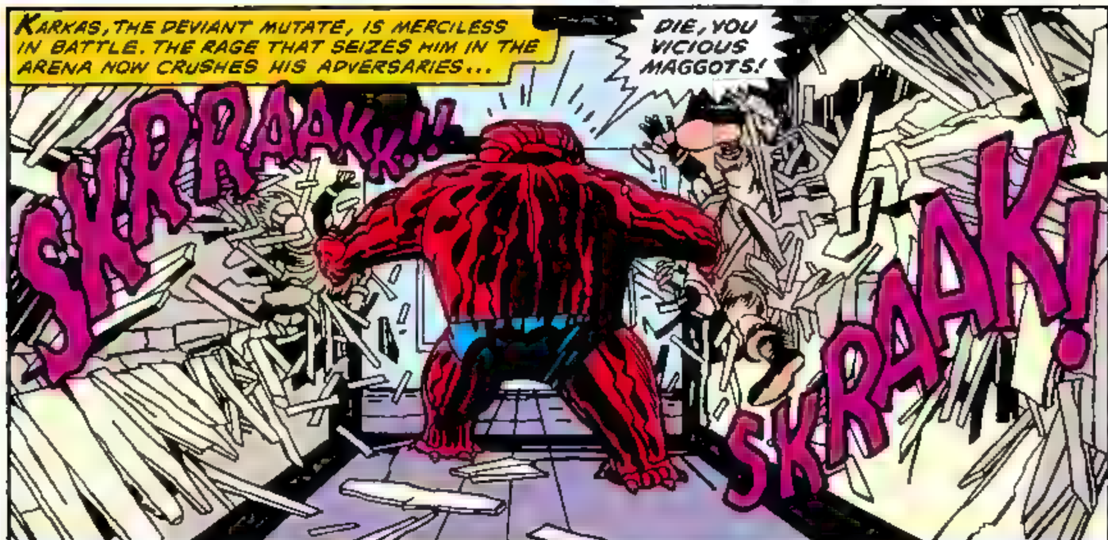
I MUSTN'T WASTE ANY TIME! THERE ARE INNOCENT L VES AT STAKE IN TH S HOTEL!

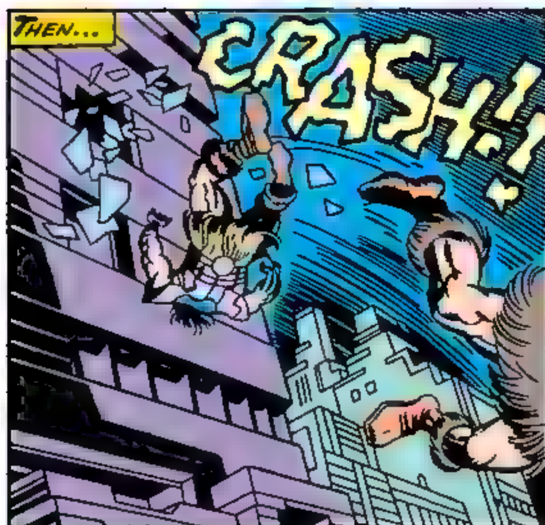
TH S ONE IS STRONGER THAN HE SEEMS!

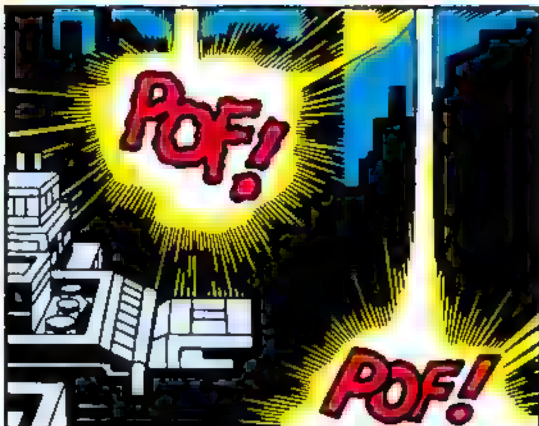
BEWARE! HE HAS THE GRIP OF A BEHEMOTH!






KARKAS, THE DEVIANT MUTATE, IS MERCILESS IN BATTLE. THE RAGE THAT SEIZES HIM IN THE ARENA NOW CRUSHES HIS ADVERSARIES...
DIE, YOU VICIOUS MAGGOTS!
SKRRAAKK!!!
SKRAAK!

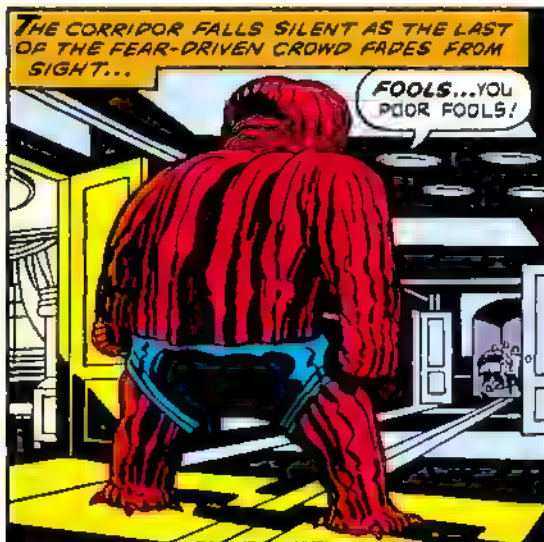
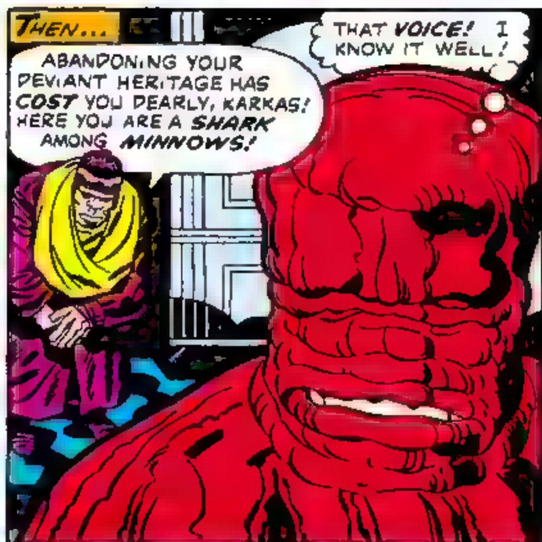

THEN...
CRASH!!


AS THE TWO ATTACKERS HURTLE TOWARD THE STREET BELOW, THEY SUDDENLY VANISH IN TWIN FLASHES OF LIGHT...
POF!
POF!


THEY'RE GONE--! AS THOUGH THEY NEVER EXISTED!
YET ZAKKA MUST BE FOUND AND HIS TOOLS TAKEN!
HE IS NOW ABLE TO BRING MORE THAN ONE KILLER AT A TIME TO THIS CENTURY!
WE MAY SEE AN ARMY NEXT!

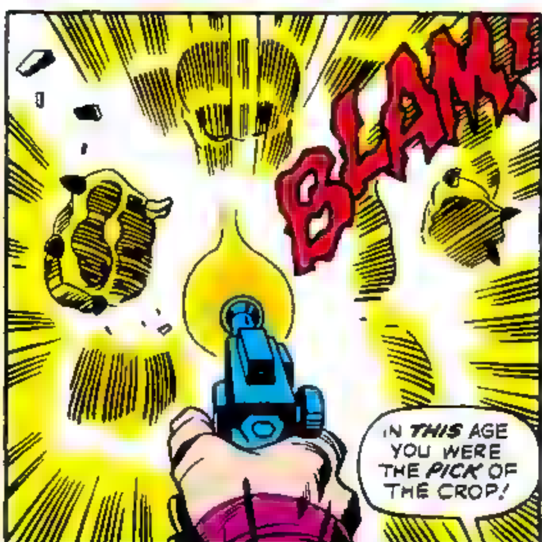

KARKAS TURNS ONCE AGAIN TOWARD HIS ROOM, ONLY TO CONFRONT THE TERRIFIED WITNESSES TO HIS IMAGE...
OH, MY GOD! I-IT'S HORRIBLE! HORRIBLE!
LOOK AT THE MONSTER! HE'S REAL BIG!
RUN! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!!


THE REACTION OF THE ONLOOKERS IS A BLOW TO KARKAS. HE IS TRAPPED IN A FEARSOME BODY WHICH DRIVES ALL WHO SEE IT TO FLEE IN PANIC...
IT'S HAPPENED AGAIN! THIS HOTEL IS BESEIGED BY DANGEROUS FREAKS!
WAIT! WAIT--! YOU NEEDN'T FEAR ME! I AM NOT HERE TO CAUSE YOU HARM!
I HAVE COME TO PREVENT THE VERY PLAGUE OF VISITATIONS WHICH THREATEN YOUR CITY!
THIS WAY! THERE'S SAFETY ON THE UPPER FLOORS!
EEEE--! CALL THE POLICE!
I'M CHECKING OUT OF HERE!


THE CORRIDOR FALLS SILENT AS THE LAST OF THE FEAR-DRIVEN CROWD FADES FROM SIGHT...
FOOLS...YOU POOR FOOLS!

THEN...
ABANDONING YOUR DEVIANT HERITAGE HAS COST YOU DEARLY, KARKAS! HERE YOU ARE A SHARK AMONG MINNOWS!
THAT VOICE! I KNOW IT WELL!

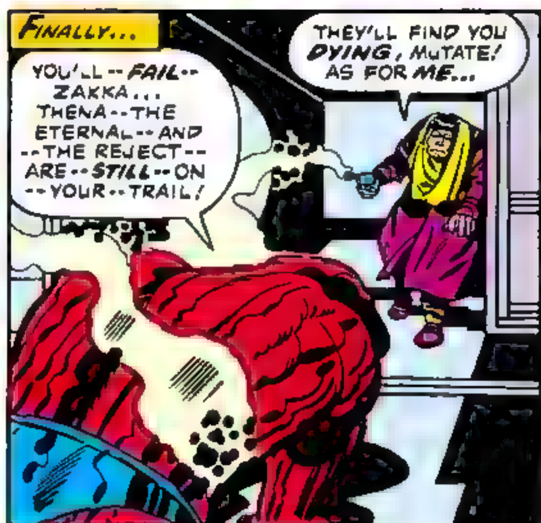
SO...YOU'VE DECIDED TO SHOW YOURSELF, ZAKKA! AREN'T YOU A BIT FRIGHTENED OF FACING ME AT SUCH CLOSE QUARTERS?!
I WAS HOPING THAT THIS DEMONSTRATION OF AFFECTION BY YOUR HUMAN FRIENDS WOULD GIVE YOU PAUSE TO WONDER AT THE WORTH OF YOUR TASK!

IF YOU THINK TO WIN ME TO YOUR SIDE --TO BECOME ANOTHER OF YOUR CREATURES IN THIS REIGN OF TERROR --BEST THINK AGAIN!
BRINGING CHAOS TO THE HUMANS CAN WRECK THIS PLANET--FOR ALL OF US!
BAH! IN THE END THEY'LL BLOW THEMSELVES UP! LEMURIA WILL RISE TO POWER! OUR RULERS SHALL BE SERVED!

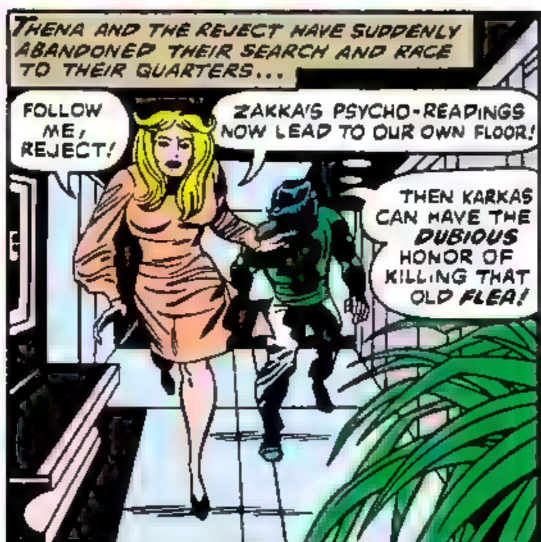
I'VE FORSAKEN THAT FAMILY OF TOADS! IT'S TIME THEY WERE BROUGHT TO HEEL... AS WELL AS THEIR FAWNING SERVITORS!
THEN, WE ARE AT ODDS, YOU AND I!
TOO BAD, KARKAS. A GIANT MUTATE COULD HAVE SPREAD MORE HAVOC THAN A THOUSAND KILLERS FROM TIME!

BLAM!
IN THIS AGE YOU WERE THE PICK OF THE CROP!

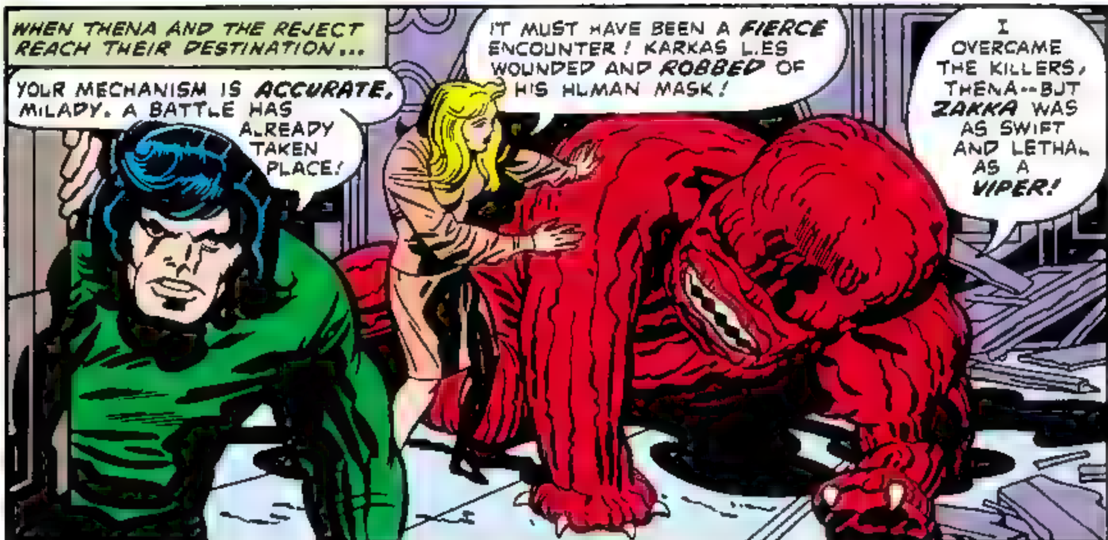

I'LL HAVE TO EMPTY THIS SHOCK-PISTOL TO BRING YOU DOWN! THAT BODY OF YOURS CAN ABSORB MORE PUNISHMENT THAN A BRIGADE OF HUMANS!
BAM!
BAM!
WHAMM!

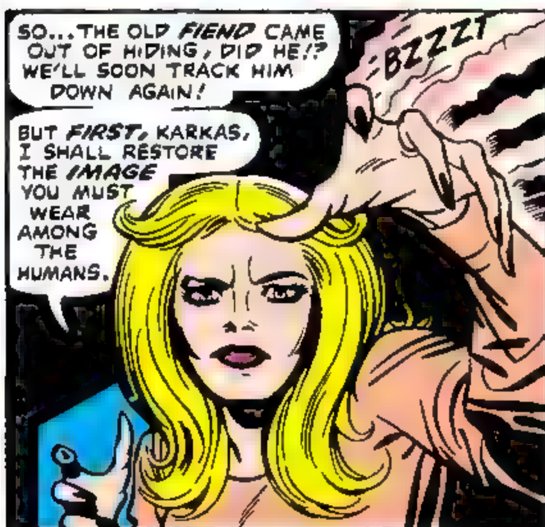

FALL, CURSE YOU! FALL!!
IF I CAN'T USE YOU, I'LL DESTROY YOU!
KRAK!

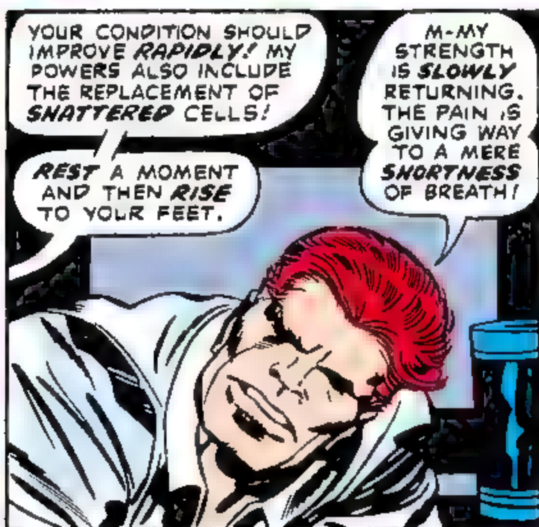

FINALLY...
YOU'LL -- FAIL -- ZAKKA... THENA -- THE ETERNAL -- AND -- THE REJECT -- ARE -- STILL -- ON -- YOUR -- TRAIL!
THEY'LL FIND YOU DYING, MUTATE! AS FOR ME...


...I SHALL BE CASTING MY NET IN THE PROPER WATERS THIS TIME -- WHERE THE DEVIANTS BRED THE MOST POWERFUL MUTATE OF A BYGONE AGE!
HE SHALL MAKE A FIT SUBSTITUTE FOR YOU! FAREWELL!

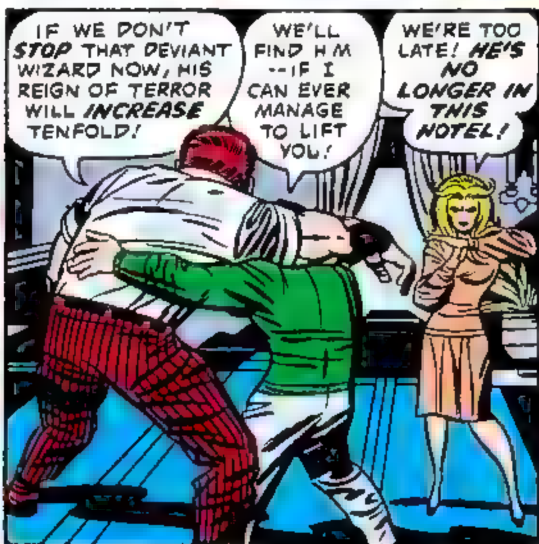

THENA AND THE REJECT HAVE SUDDENLY ABANDONED THEIR SEARCH AND RACE TO THEIR QUARTERS...
FOLLOW ME, REJECT!
ZAKKA'S PSYCHO-READINGS NOW LEAD TO OUR OWN FLOOR!
THEN KARKAS CAN HAVE THE DUBIOUS HONOR OF KILLING THAT OLD FLEA!

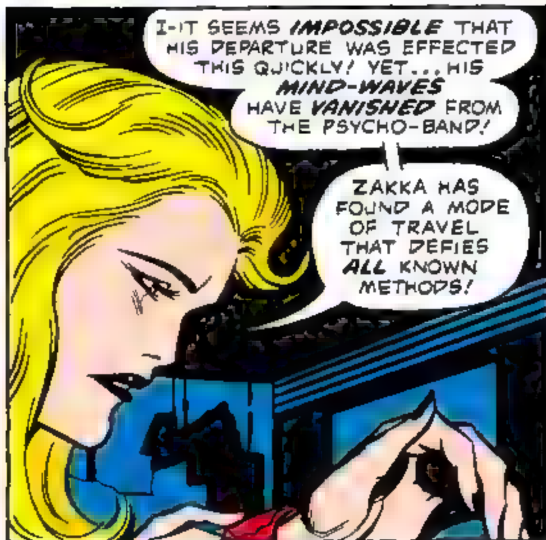

WHEN THENA AND THE REJECT REACH THEIR DESTINATION...
YOUR MECHANISM IS ACCURATE, MILADY. A BATTLE HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE!
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A FIERCE ENCOUNTER! KARKAS LIES WOUNDED AND ROBBED OF HIS HUMAN MASK!
I OVERCAME THE KILLERS, THENA--BUT ZAKKA WAS AS SWIFT AND LETHAL AS A VIPER!

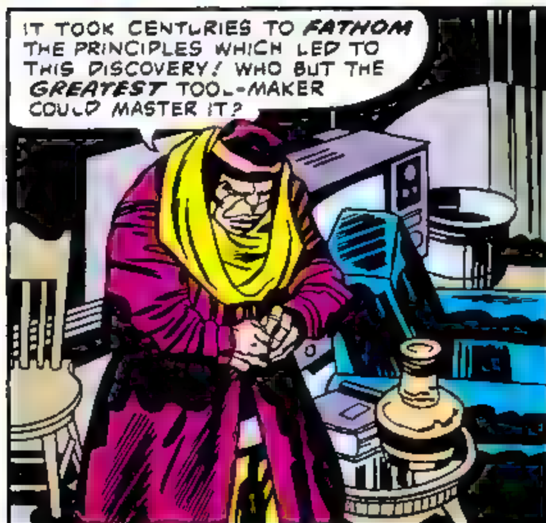
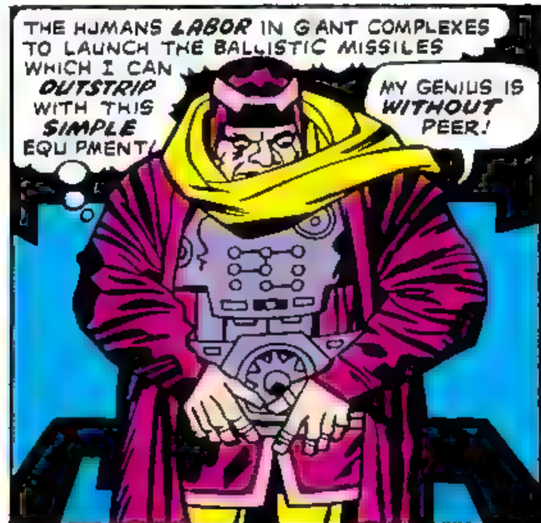

SO...THE OLD FIEND CAME OUT OF HIDING, DID HE!? WE'LL SOON TRACK HIM DOWN AGAIN!
BUT FIRST, KARKAS, I SHALL RESTORE THE IMAGE YOU MUST WEAR AMONG THE HUMANS.
BZZZZT


YOUR CONDITION SHOULD IMPROVE RAPIDLY! MY POWERS ALSO INCLUDE THE REPLACEMENT OF SHATTERED CELLS!
REST A MOMENT AND THEN RISE TO YOUR FEET.
M-MY STRENGTH IS SLOWLY RETURNING. THE PAIN IS GIVING WAY TO A MERE SHORTNESS OF BREATH!


KARKAS IS RECOVERING, REJECT. HE WILL NEED YOUR HELP.
HE NEEDS LESSONS IN DEALING WITH A TREACHEROUS ENEMY!
DO AS THENA COMMANDS! WE HAVE WORK TO DO!

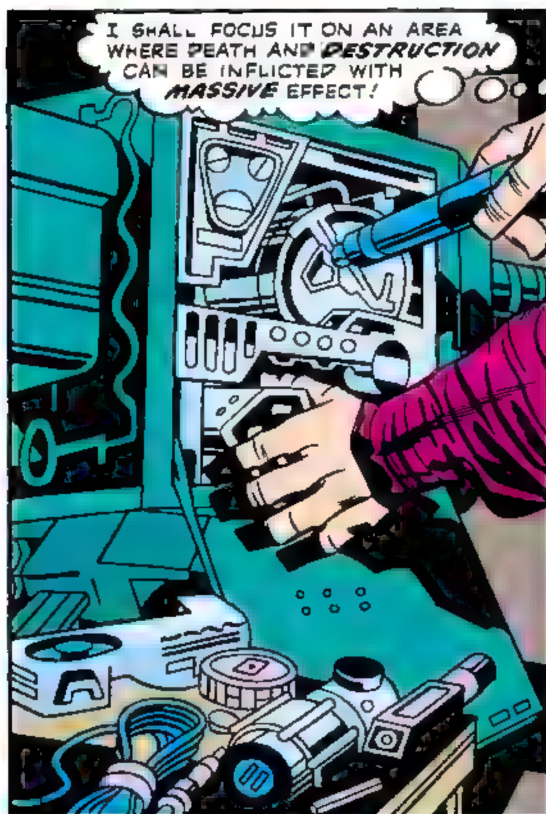

IF WE DON'T STOP THAT DEVIANT WIZARD NOW, HIS REIGN OF TERROR WILL INCREASE TENFOLD!
WE'LL FIND HIM --IF I CAN EVER MANAGE TO LIFT YOU!
WE'RE TOO LATE! HE'S NO LONGER IN THIS HOTEL!


I-IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE THAT HIS DEPARTURE WAS EFFECTED THIS QUICKLY! YET...HIS MIND-WAVES HAVE VANISHED FROM THE PSYCHO-BAND!
ZAKKA HAS FOUND A MODE OF TRAVEL THAT DEFIES ALL KNOWN METHODS!

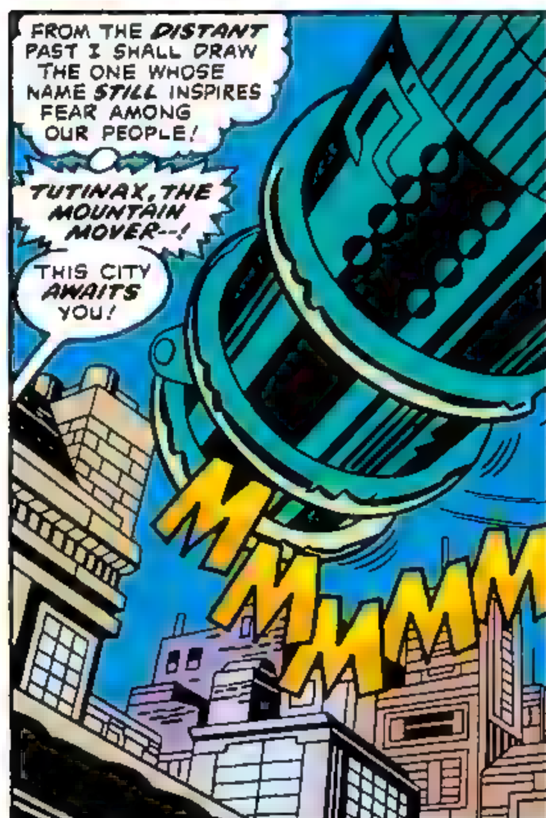
AT THAT MOMENT...
DISTANCE IS MEANINGLESS WHEN DIMENSION-TRANSIT IS IN OPERATION! I CAN REACH THIS SLEAZY APARTMENT AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT!

IT TOOK CENTURIES TO FATHOM THE PRINCIPLES WHICH LED TO THIS DISCOVERY! WHO BUT THE GREATEST TOOL-MAKER COULD MASTER IT?

THE HUMANS LABOR IN GIANT COMPLEXES TO LAUNCH THE BALLISTIC MISSILES WHICH I CAN OUTSTRIP WITH THIS SIMPLE EQUIPMENT!
MY GENIUS IS WITHOUT PEER!

WHO WOULD CONTEMPLATE THE POSSIBILITY OF STORING SUCH AWESOME EQUIPMENT AS THIS DIMENSION HARNESS IN AN OLD BUREAU DRAWER?

IS THERE A SECRET LEFT THAT IS NOT WITHIN MY GRASP? IS THERE A TASK BEYOND REACH OF MY SKILLS??
MY TIME PROJECTOR IS STILL FOCUSED ON THE HOTEL, BUT I SHALL CHANGE THAT NOW!


I SHALL FOCUS IT ON AN AREA WHERE DEATH AND DESTRUCTION CAN BE INFLICTED WITH MASSIVE EFFECT!

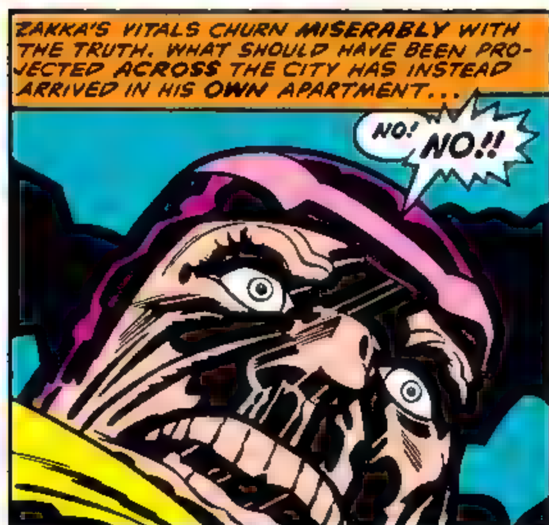

HOWEVER, THESE CRUCIAL ADJUSTMENTS MUST BE MADE TO FULFILL THAT PURPOSE! THE INNER CIRCUITS SHALL PENETRATE A CENTURY IN ANCIENT DEVIANT HISTORY!


FROM THE DISTANT PAST I SHALL DRAW THE ONE WHOSE NAME STILL INSPIRES FEAR AMONG OUR PEOPLE!
TUTINAX, THE MOUNTAIN MOVER--!
THIS CITY AWAITS YOU!
MMMMMM


SUDDENLY--!
KRASH!

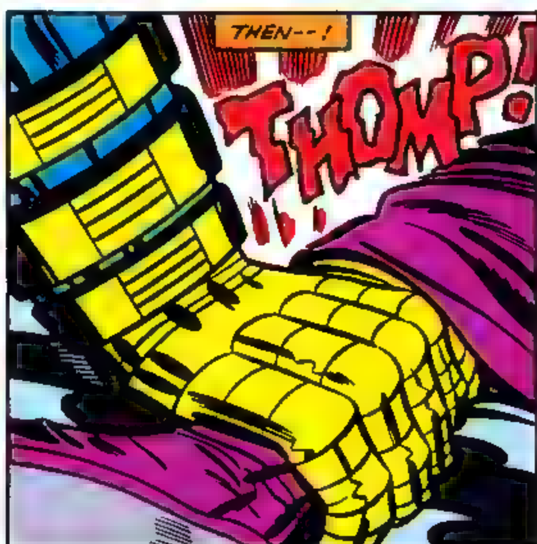

DEMONS OF THE PITS! THAT VIOLENT BACKLASH WAS TOTALLY UNEXPECTED!
I-IT SHOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED! MY CALCULATIONS WERE INFALLIBLE! ZAKKA DOESN'T MAKE ERRORS!


THE DEVIANT IS STARTLED BY A MUFFLED SOUND. SOMETHING HUGE MOVES ACROSS HIS LINE OF VISION...
SPEAK! WHO ARE YOU!? H-HOW DID YOU GET IN THIS ROOM?

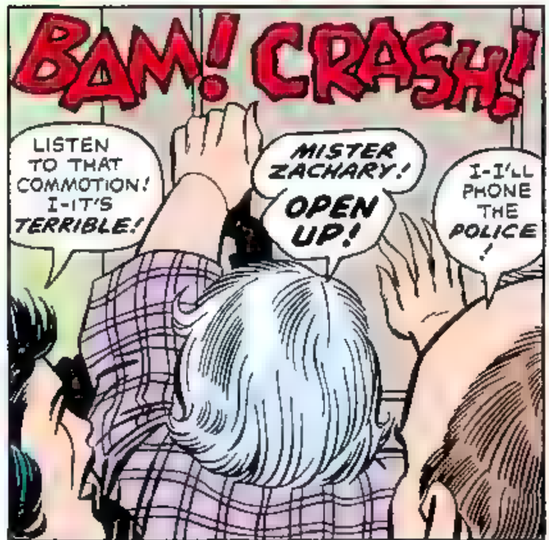

ZAKKA'S VITALS CHURN MISERABLY WITH THE TRUTH. WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN PROJECTED ACROSS THE CITY HAS INSTEAD ARRIVED IN HIS OWN APARTMENT...
NO! NO!!


A NIGHTMARE SHADOW CLOSES IN UPON HIM...
THE DIMENSION HARNESS--! MY ONLY HOPE OF ESCAPE!


IT IS AN EFFORT THAT IS PAINFULLY SLOW. EVERY NERVE IN THE DEVIANT'S BODY IS STRAINED TO ITS LIMIT AS THE DRAWER IS OPENED...AND...
THE HARNESS... I NEED ONLY A SECOND TO ACTIVATE IT AND TRANSPORT MYSELF TO SAFETY!

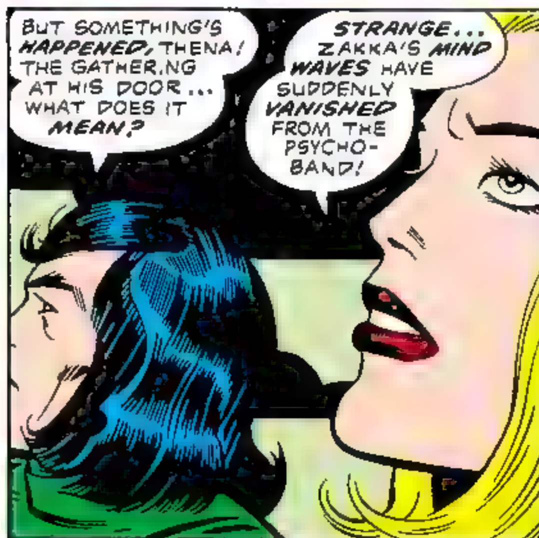

THEN--!
THOMP!


OUTSIDE...
YAAAAAAA
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE?

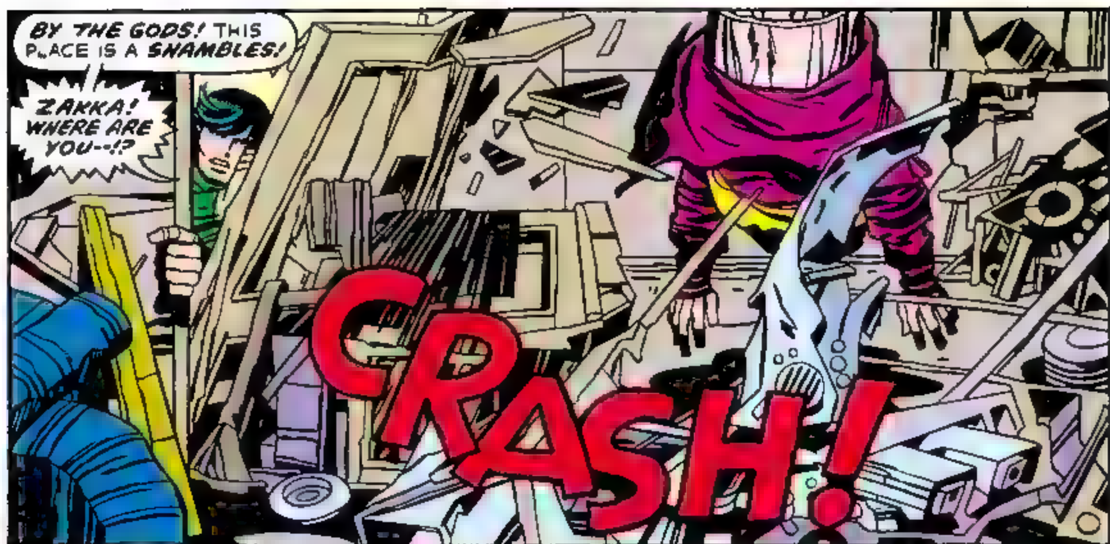

BAM! CRASH!
LISTEN TO THAT COMMOTION! I-IT'S TERRIBLE!
MISTER ZACHARY! OPEN UP!
I-I'LL PHONE THE POLICE!


LISTEN! THE NOISE HAS STOPPED!
SOMEONE'S STILL MOVING IN THERE!
I DON'T HEAR OLD ZACHARY! DO YOU SUPPOSE--?
ISN'T THERE A MAN HERE WITH NERVE ENOUGH TO BREAK DOWN THAT DOOR?!

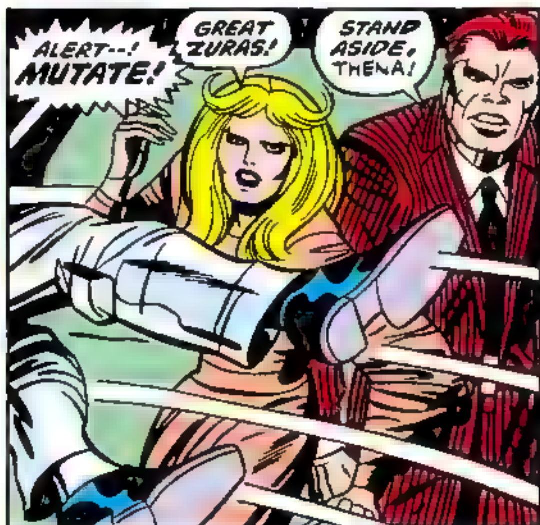

YOU'VE FOUND A VOLUNTEER, MISS! I SEEK THE OCCUPANT OF THAT VERY APARTMENT!
THERE'S NO MISTAKE! THE PSYCHO-BAND HAS TRACED ZAKKA ONCE MORE! HE'S UP THERE!

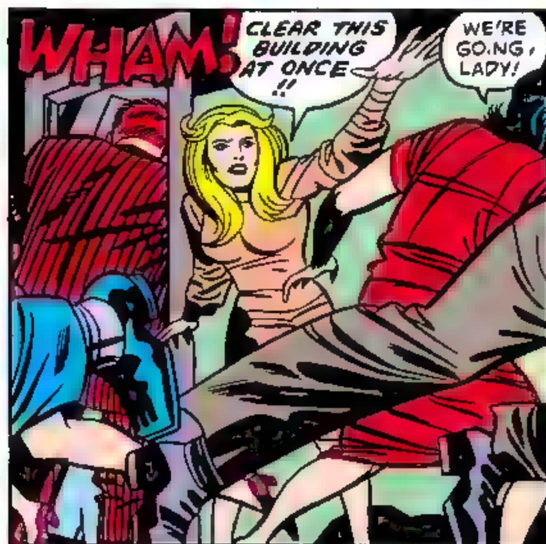

BUT SOMETHING'S HAPPENED, THENA! THE GATHERING AT HIS DOOR... WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
STRANGE... ZAKKA'S MIND WAVES HAVE SUDDENLY VANISHED FROM THE PSYCHO-BAND!

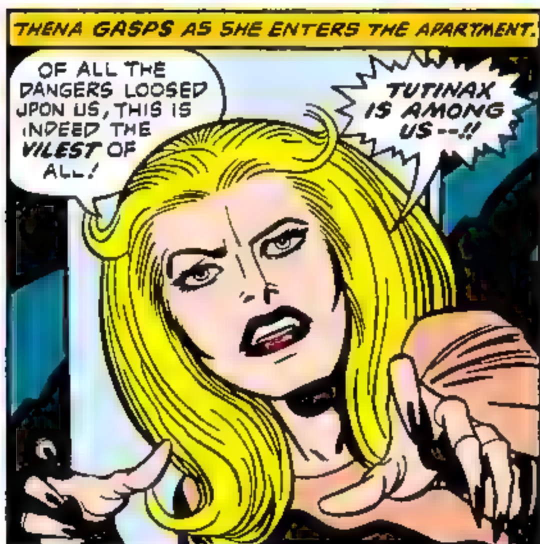

LET US THROUGH, FRIENDS. WE'LL TAKE CHARGE OF THIS SITUATION!
M-MISTER ZACHARY IS IN TERRIBLE TROUBLE! PLEASE, DO SOMETHING-- QUICKLY!

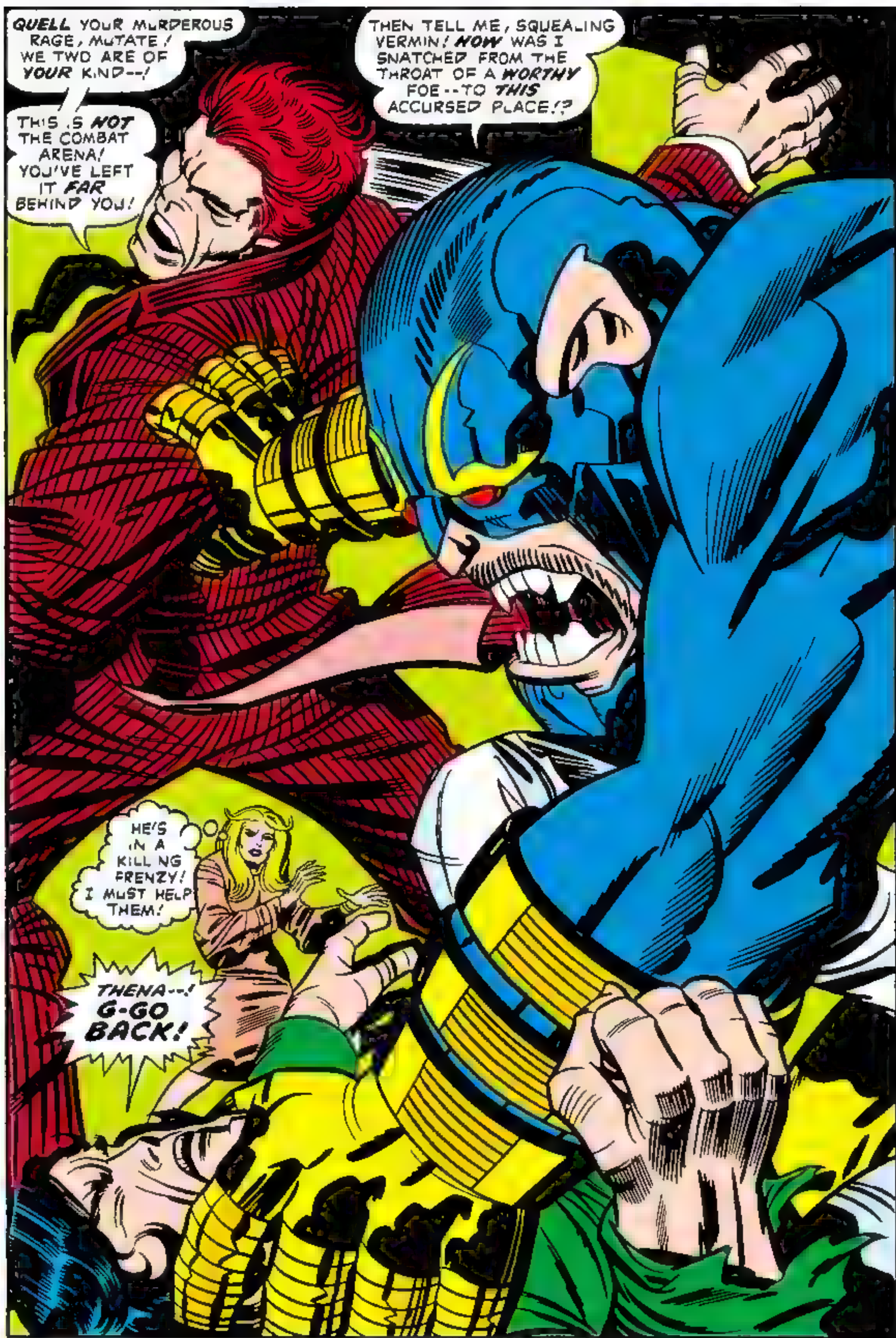

BY THE GODS! THIS PLACE IS A SHAMBLES!
ZAKKA! WHERE ARE YOU--!?
CRASH!


SUDDENLY--!
KRUF!

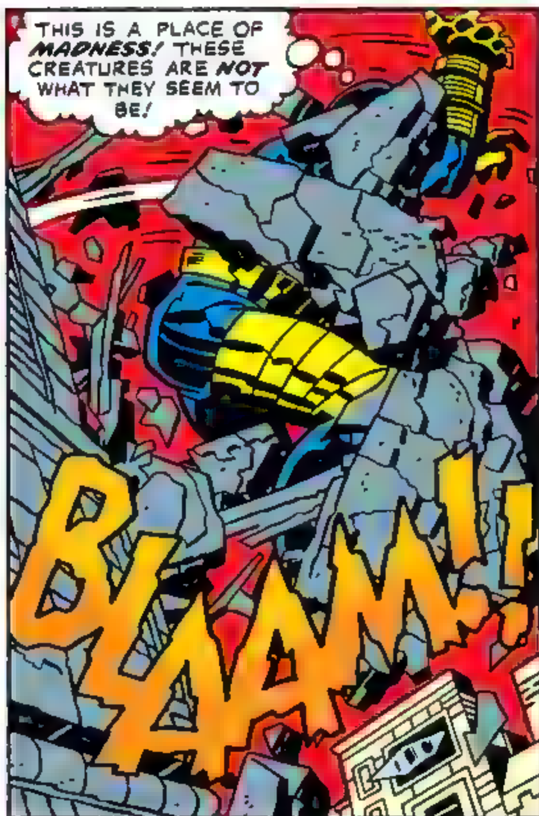

ALERT--! MUTATE!
GREAT ZURAS!
STAND ASIDE, THENA!


WHAM!
CLEAR THIS BUILDING AT ONCE!!
WE'RE GOING, LADY!

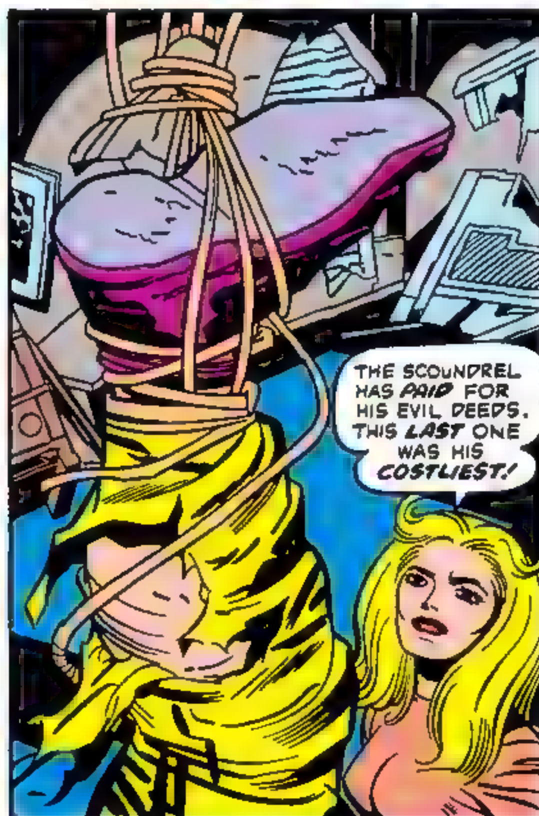

THENA GASPS AS SHE ENTERS THE APARTMENT.
OF ALL THE DANGERS LOOSED UPON US, THIS IS INDEED THE VILEST OF ALL!
TUTINAX IS AMONG US--!!


QUELL YOUR MURDEROUS RAGE, MUTATE! WE TWO ARE OF YOUR KIND--!
THIS IS NOT THE COMBAT ARENA! YOU'VE LEFT IT FAR BEHIND YOU!
THEN TELL ME, SQUEALING VERMIN! HOW WAS I SNATCHED FROM THE THROAT OF A WORTHY FOE--TO THIS ACCURSED PLACE!?
HE'S IN A KILLING FRENZY! I MUST HELP THEM!
THENA--! G-GO BACK!


AN ETERNAL!
ZZSSHH!
RELEASE THEM, MUTATE! I CAN USE THE BOLTS OF ZURAS!


THIS IS A PLACE OF MADNESS! THESE CREATURES ARE NOT WHAT THEY SEEM TO BE!
BLAAM!!


BREATHE EASIER, MY HEROES! THE MOUNTAIN MOVER HAS BEEN FRIGHTENED OFF!
BUT, WOE TO THIS TOWN WHEN HIS RAGE RETURNS!
WOE TO ALL WHO FEEL HIS GRIP! HE IS A BEAST WITH THE POWER OF A GOD!!
A CURSE UPON ZAKKA AND HIS MEDDLING WITH THE FORCES OF TIME!


THE SCOUNDREL HAS PAID FOR HIS EVIL DEEDS. THIS LAST ONE WAS HIS COSTLIEST!


WE HAVE BUT TO STOP TUTINAX TO ELIMINATE ANY FURTHER THREAT TO THE CITY!
BE RATIONAL, MILADY! EACH OF US KNOWS THE MUTATE'S HISTORY! TO DEFEAT HIM WOULD BE A TRIUMPH BEYOND OUR COMBINED TALENTS!


YET... TO DO BATTLE WITH THIS TITAN FROM THE PAST WOULD BE AN HONOR FOR ANY VETERAN OF THE COMBAT ARENA!
I WOULD TRY, MILADY! I WOULD TEST MY SKILLS IN SUCH AN EPIC FIGHT!
I NEVER DOUBTED YOUR DECISION, REJECT!
LET THIS STATURE BE YOURS!


I SHALL RESTORE YOUR TRUE IMAGE, MASTER-KILLER!
WOMF!!!


HE LOOKS MOST ATTRACTIVE --FOR DYING!
THE REAPER IS EVER PRESENT IN THE ARENA. SHOULD HE BECKON ME, I SHALL GO TO HIM IN PROPER ATTIRE!
THANK YOU, MILADY!


YEA, THOUGH I BE AS THE WASP TO A GIANT WHO WALKS THE EARTH, MY WIT AND SPEED AND DEADLY STING SHALL MAGNIFY IN POWER-- WHEN THE FURIES COURSE IN MY BLOOD!
POOR REJECT... HE HAS THE DEATH-WISH!


COME THEN! I SHALL LEVITATE US TO THE TASK WHICH LIES AHEAD!
LEAD US, THENA!

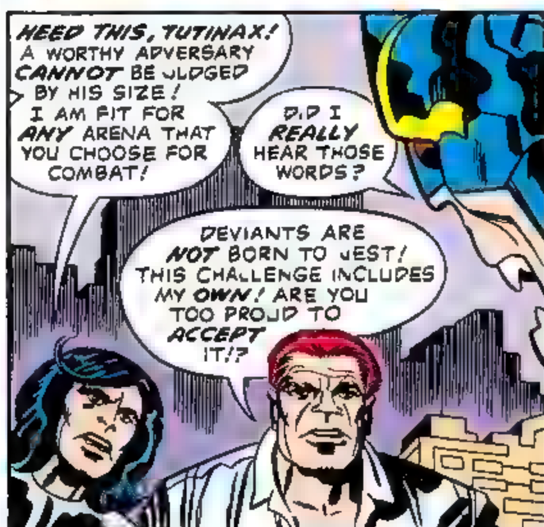

MEANWHILE, IN THE HEART OF THE CITY...
DO MY EYES DECEIVE ME!? IS THAT A MAN UP THERE -- OR SOME GIANT APE!?
WHERE DO THESE CRAZIES COME FROM!? CAN'T THE AUTHORITIES STOP THEM!?
HE'S RIPPING UP EVERYTHING IN SIGHT! LOOK! HE'S GOING FOR THAT WATER TANK!

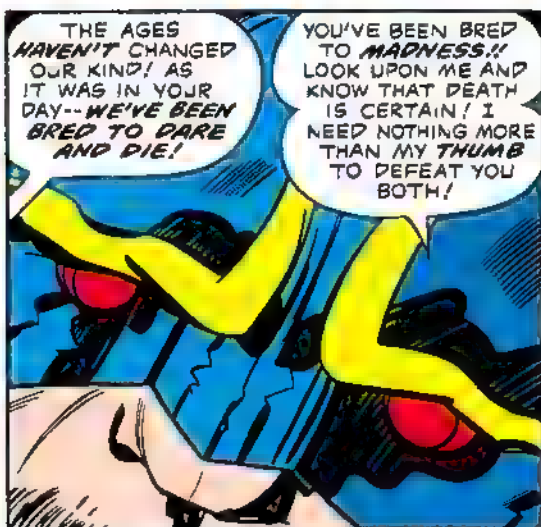

THIS ONE IS STRONGER THAN AN ELEPHANT! HE'S TORN THE TANK FROM ITS MOORINGS!
I'LL SILENCE YOUR INFERNAL TONGUES, HUMANS! THIS COMMUNAL CLACKING IS AN OBSCENITY TO THE EAR!
RUN! HE'S GOING TO THROW THAT THING!


CRAASSH!
RUN! RUN!
YAAAA!
CLEAR THE STREETS!


BEGONE, YOU FRIGHTENED ANTS! SCATTER TO THE SAFETY OF YOUR STONE HIVES! AND SEEK NO MERCY WHEN THE SHADOW OF TUTINAX FALLS ACROSS YOUR PATH!
WHERE I TREAD--I CLAIM DOMINION!!


SUDDENLY--!
SO IT'S YOU THREE! HAS GOOD FORTUNE NUMBED YOUR BRAINS, THAT YOU WOULD RISK A SECOND ENCOUNTER!?
THE MOUNTAIN-MOVER IS FAT WITH ARROGANCE, AND BLINDED BY PAST TRIUMPHS!
I AGREE!


HEED THIS, TUTINAX! A WORTHY ADVERSARY CANNOT BE JUDGED BY HIS SIZE! I AM FIT FOR ANY ARENA THAT YOU CHOOSE FOR COMBAT!
DID I REALLY HEAR THOSE WORDS?
DEVIANTS ARE NOT BORN TO JEST! THIS CHALLENGE INCLUDES MY OWN! ARE YOU TOO PROUD TO ACCEPT IT!?

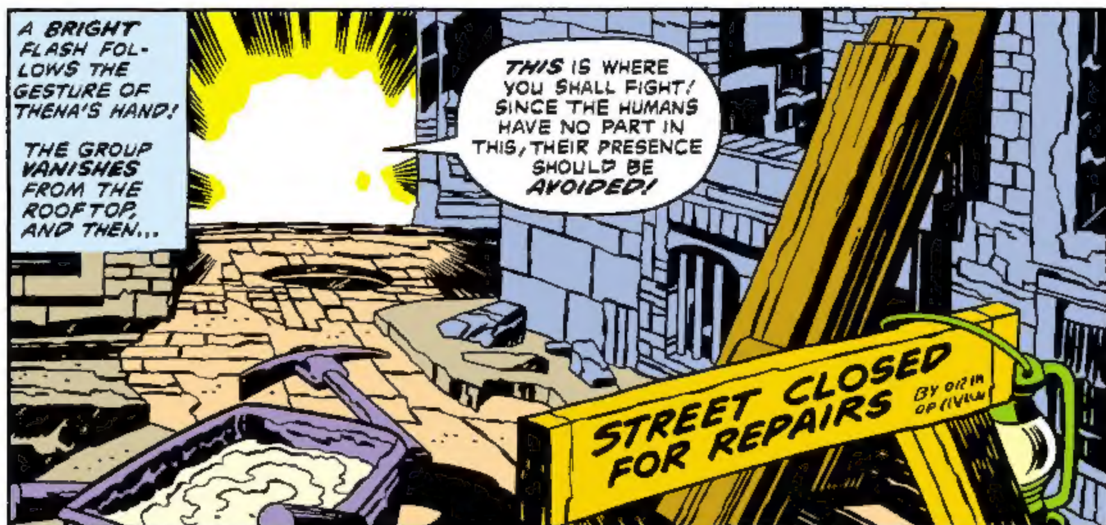

THE AGES HAVEN'T CHANGED OUR KIND! AS IT WAS IN YOUR DAY--WE'VE BEEN BRED TO DARE AND DIE!
YOU'VE BEEN BRED TO MADNESS!! LOOK UPON ME AND KNOW THAT DEATH IS CERTAIN! I NEED NOTHING MORE THAN MY THUMB TO DEFEAT YOU BOTH!


USE WHAT YOU WISH, BEHEMOTH--! BUT FIGHT!
ER-YES--FIGHT!!
BY THE GODS OF BATTLE! I GRANT YOUR WISH!


TH-THEN SO BE IT! LET DESTINY DECIDE!
SILENCE, FOOL! YOUR COURAGE IS NOT AS PROM SING AS THE DARK ONE'S EAGERNESS!
THEN, I AM CHOSEN!

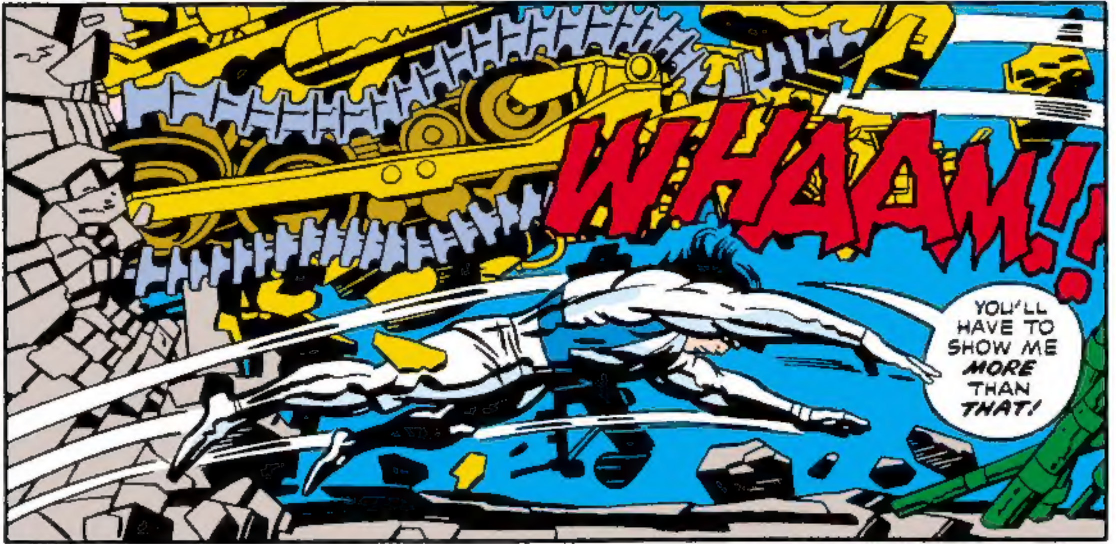

IN THE TRADITION OF THE ANCIENT CODE OF DEVIANT COMBAT, *I SALUTE YOU!*
I SALUTE YOU, DEADLY MICROBE!
YOU IGNORE ME IN *VAIN!* MY FORCE SHALL BE FELT!


THENA--YOU *MUSTN'T* INTERFERE!
ONLY TO THE EXTENT OF CHOOSING THE *PROPER* ARENA!
STAND FAST --ALL OF YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, ETERNAL?

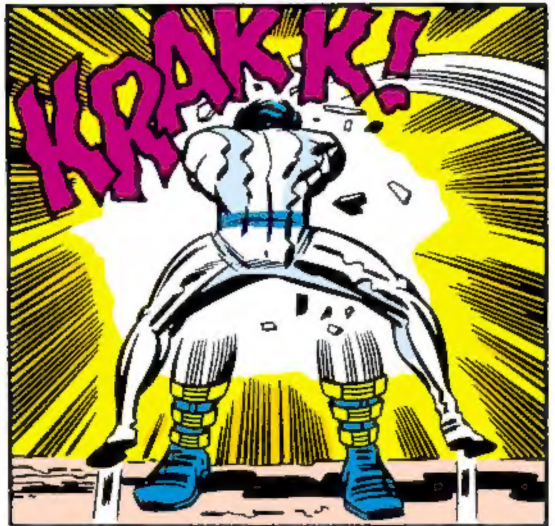

A *BRIGHT FLASH* FOLLOWS THE GESTURE OF *THENA'S HAND!*
THE GROUP *VANISHES* FROM THE ROOFTOP, AND THEN...
THIS IS WHERE YOU SHALL FIGHT! SINCE THE HUMANS HAVE NO PART IN THIS, THEIR PRESENCE SHOULD BE *AVOIDED!*
STREET CLOSED FOR REPAIRS


WISELY *DONE,* THENA! WHAT HAPPENS HERE WILL *NOT* AFFECT THEM!
CEASE YOUR CHATTER! GIVE ME *SPACE* TO MANEUVER!
IT'S *YOURS,* REJECT!
BEFORE YOU *DIE,* FLEA, YOU SHALL WITNESS THE MIGHT YOU SO *FOOLISHLY* DEFIED!


I AM CALLED THE *MOUNTAIN-MOVER* WITH *GOOD* REASON!
FOR MINE IS *NOT* A LEGEND BUILT ON *SHAM*!


WHAAM!!
YOU'LL HAVE TO SHOW ME MORE THAN THAT!


I'VE BEEN OUTMATCHED IN POWER-- BUT NEVER IN RESOURCEFUL-NESS AND SPEED!
HERE IS STEEL FOR YOUR GUT!


KRAKK!


MIGHTIER WEAPONS THAN THAT HAVE SHATTERED ON MY VITALS!
YIELD, FLEA --AND I SHALL GRANT YOU-- LIFE!
SAVE YOUR MERCY FOR LESSER FOES!


MUST I MOVE A MOUNTAIN TO GIVE YOU A TRUE VISION OF THE ODDS YOU FACE!?
I SHALL NOT YIELD, THOUGH YOU MOVE THIS CITY!!

THEN YOU SHALL SEE IT DONE!! SUCH EPIC MADNESS DESERVES TO END IN EPIC STYLE!

RRRRUUMMMM!!

HE'S LIFTING THE ENTIRE BUILDING FROM ITS FOUNDATION!!






RUSH HIM, KARKAS! IF WE RAM HIM IN UNISON, THERE'S A CHANCE WE CAN TOPPLE HIM!
HOLD!
THE BUILDING WILL CRUSH US-- BUT THE THREAT TO OTHERS WILL BE GONE!

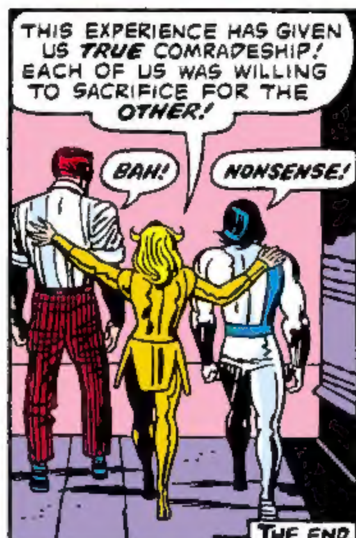

AS THE TWO REACH THEIR TARGET--!
SPOSSH!


THE BUILDING HAS LOWERED AND SETTLED!
TUTINAX--! H-HE'S VANISHED!
NATURALLY!
IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF--TIME!


YOU KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN, THENA! THAT'S WHY YOU STAYED--! TO LEVITATE THIS STRUCTURE BACK UPON ITS FOUNDATION!
TUTINAX WAS FADING! IT REGISTERED ON MY PSYCHO-BAND!
THUS, HE DEPARTED, LIKE THOSE BEFORE HIM!


WE'VE BEEN PLAYED FOR FOOLS--! USED BY A FEMALE AS PAWNS IN A DELAYING TACTIC!
NO! HAD THIS LASTED A MOMENT LONGER, OUR DEATHS WOULD HAVE BEEN REAL ENOUGH!
WELL SAID, KARKAS!


WE'VE DONE OUR WORK, THENA-- BUT WHAT HAS ALL THIS DONE FOR US!?
IT'S HELPED US MUCH MORE THAN THE HUMANS!
HOW?


THIS EXPERIENCE HAS GIVEN US TRUE COMRADESHIP! EACH OF US WAS WILLING TO SACRIFICE FOR THE OTHER!
BAH!
NONSENSE!
THE END.